

14-15 June 2010

64th Session of the General Assembly

Informal Interactive Hearings on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Recognizing the important role of non-state actors in development, the General Assembly has asked representatives of civil society and the private sector to provide input to the High-Level Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals in September. To this end the President of the General Assembly will convene informal interactive hearings with representatives of civil society and the private sector on 14-15 June 2010. Speakers will include farmers, young people, unionists, women's activists, indigenous people, academics, business people, and community organisers from all parts of the world. The summary of these important hearings will be issued as an official UN document and help Member States in preparing for the High-Level Meeting.

**Informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with
representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society
organizations and the private sector**

**ADVANCE UNEDITED SUMMARY
12 July 2010**

INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly held informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector on 14 and 15 June 2010 in New York, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 64/184 of 21 December 2009. The Hearings were organized by the President of the 64th session of the General Assembly as an input to the preparatory process of the General Assembly High-level Plenary Meeting (HLPM) on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be held from 20 to 22 September 2010 in New York.
2. The themes for the Hearings were based on the report of the Secretary-General of 12 February 2010, “Keeping the promise: a forward-looking review to promote an agreed action agenda to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015” (A/64/665).¹ Four interactive sessions were held under the themes of: “Building a better tomorrow: local actions, national strategies and global structures;” “Equal and inclusive partnerships: Accountability in the fight against poverty;” “Sustaining development and withstanding crises;” “From voice to policy: 1660 days left.”
3. 46 speakers and 519 observers, representing 335 non-governmental, civil society and private sector organizations, participated in the meeting, together with Member States and observers. Well over half of the participants were women.
4. This summary of the Hearings provides Member States with a resource in their consultations on the Outcome Document to be adopted at the HLPM. The summary offers some guiding principles and proposals by civil society and the private sector for the way forward to 2015, including through participatory accountability frameworks. It then summarizes a range of specific proposals under Goals 1 to 8, as part of a global “MDG Breakthrough Plan”, as called for by many civil society organisations.

¹ A global on-line consultation based on the Secretary-General's comprehensive report, to which over 160 international, national and local civil society organizations contributed, is available on: <www.un-ngls.org/mdgconsultation>. Written statements from the Hearings are available on: <<http://www.un-ngls.org/mdg2010>>

GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND PROPOSALS FOR THE WAY FORWARD

5. Participants emphasized that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have provided a common and unifying framework for development and a useful mobilization tool.
6. Many speakers reaffirmed the message of the Secretary-General in his report for the HLPM that the MDGs rest upon the Millennium Declaration and are an expression of human rights. Among those rights, participants emphasized both civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights, and the right to development. Over half the world's population is composed of women, yet realizing gender equality remains one of the most difficult goals to achieve, which has implications for all the MDGs.
7. For many speakers, the onset of the multiple global food, economic and climate crises only reinforced concerns expressed by civil society for many years that the prevailing development model of recent decades is unsustainable. Many participants echoed the Secretary-General's call for strengthened national ownership of policies to pursue more inclusive, equitable and environmentally sustainable development paths. This implied greater policy space to mobilize domestic resources and align forward-looking macroeconomic and sectoral policies with development goals – currently often still restricted by inappropriate external conditionalities, trade rules and the constraints imposed by international financial markets. This pointed to the need for major reforms in international economic and development cooperation.
8. While developed countries have fallen short of fulfilling their commitments, uneven domestic distribution of resources in developing countries also undermines the MDGs. It was noted that in recent years, many developing countries experienced high levels of economic growth, but poverty reduction and job creation lagged behind – so-called “jobless growth.”
9. Throughout the hearings panellists offered examples of the many best practices that could be scaled up and replicated in order to reach the goals by 2015. For example, it was noted that the government of Malawi in 2004 brought back agricultural subsidies to small farmers. Between 2005 and 2007, this resulted in a two-fold productivity increasing, turning food deficit of 43% into a food surplus of 57%. The proportion of people living on less than US\$1 a day has fallen from 52% to 40%. In Brazil, the “Fome Zero” (Zero Hunger) programme includes cash transfers, food banks, community kitchens and school meals, and has

reached over 44 million Brazilians suffering from hunger. This helped reduce child malnutrition by 73%. In India, the National Rural Employment Guarantee (NREG) scheme provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of employment a year for at least one member of rural households paid at the statutory minimum wage, reaching some 40 million households living below the poverty line. These types of examples reinforce the view that the MDGs are achievable if the necessary political will is there.

10. Many participants welcomed the Secretary-General's insistence on a holistic approach to the MDGs. A "sectoral" approach to the MDGs could lead to outcomes where young people benefit from adequate health and education services only to face an economic system that does not provide enough productive jobs. The MDGs have a number of targets designed to redress some of the most glaring gender inequalities, where there has been greater progress on access to education for girls than on reducing maternal mortality. There were calls for more investments to improve the position of the most off-track MDGs and regions, which should be backed up by additional resources to avoid cutting back on continued progress on other MDGs. In the same vein, preserving biodiversity and environmental resources (under Goal 7) provide key building blocks for poverty reduction under Goal 1. A broader holistic approach meant fully addressing the cross-cutting obstacles that undermine the realization of all MDGs – whether in relation to difficulties in mobilizing additional resources, unsustainable and inequitable development paths, or unaccountable governance structures at national and international levels.
11. The mutual responsibility of developed and developing countries to meet the MDGs by 2015 depends on strengthening the frameworks for accountability. Through these frameworks, Member States, individually and collectively, must be accountable to their citizens and support their further empowerment in advancing development. Accountability mechanisms should have strong civil society participation and be rooted in national and international human rights mechanisms. Localized targets and indicators to monitor progress in terms of differential impact of policies on socially excluded and marginalized groups were also seen as essential. A gender and social exclusion based audit of the MDGs – undertaken in full cooperation with civil society - was seen as an essential immediate step to be taken in the new 2010-2015 accountability framework, to which the HLPM should agree in September.
12. The principal recommendations coming from the Hearings in this regard were:

- a. Increase and strengthen the role of existing national and international human rights accountability mechanisms, including by providing such institutions with legal authority to monitor and hear complaints on human rights violations. Governments should report on their MDG performance to such bodies and comply with their decisions.
- b. States should ratify Optional Protocols to human rights treaties, especially the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- c. Systematically integrate reporting on national and international implementation of the MDGs in national reports to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council and to international human rights treaty bodies.
- d. Guarantee the full and effective participation of civil society organizations, including women's organizations, indigenous peoples and grassroots organizations of the poor in the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of all MDG-related programmes and policies. This further implies guaranteeing the rights to freedom of expression, information, assembly and association.
- e. Ensure that all development operations and policies affecting the territories of indigenous peoples and other ethnic minorities are subject to their free, prior and informed consent.
- f. Implement at the local level "development pacts" that involve public commitments by local authorities to deliver on development objectives defined by local communities; transparent mechanisms for local civil society organizations to hold authorities accountable on how funds are spent, whether policy commitments are implemented; and to combat corruption.
- g. Governments should strengthen their commitment to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment as cross-cutting priorities for reaching all goals by 2015. Women's organizations and grassroots women must have formal mechanisms of meaningful and systematic participation in the new UN gender entity at global, regional and national levels.
- h. Strengthen mechanisms for monitoring and mutual accountability between donors and recipient countries and greater coherence of development policies – within a participatory framework that

ensures more balanced country representation. The UN's Development Cooperation Forum should be the main mechanism to track progress and mutual accountability between all development actors, with strengthened participation of other key stakeholders.

- i. It was frequently noted that progress on poverty reduction also requires strong participatory frameworks anchored on human rights principles, and greater transparency as well as fighting corruption and capital flight (which by some accounts could represent as much as US\$1 trillion per year for developing countries as a whole, or ten times the amount of ODA).
- j. Consider establishing a Global Economic Coordination Council to ensure accountability and coherence of global economic governance with development goals, including the MDGs (see Goal 8).

MDG 1 – ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

13. Many participants emphasized the need for decisive progress on MDG 1, not only to reduce poverty and hunger, but also to advance all the other Goals. It was reiterated that even before the global economic and food crises caused major regressions under MDG 1, the absolute number of people in poverty increased in many parts of the world between 1990 and 2005. Therefore, many insisted on the need to embed future poverty reduction strategies within alternative development strategies, placing central importance on the generation of more productive employment with higher wages, major investments to support small farmers' capacities to produce staple foods for the local market and mechanisms to protect their livelihoods from cheap imports, price drops and natural disasters.

14. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 1 are:

- a. Ensure that developing countries have the policy space to determine and implement their nationally-owned, democratically-determined development priorities.
- b. Developing countries should put in place national MDG 1 "rescue plans," with costed, time-bound strategies for achieving the MDG target to halve hunger, while donors must commit to funding "financing gaps" as part of their commitments to MDG 1.

- c. To support the legal empowerment of the poor, governments should integrate human rights objectives in macroeconomic policies.
- d. Promote rapid implementation of the Global Jobs Pact to stimulate economic recovery and socioeconomic transformation, notably to redress “jobless growth”, establish a social protection floor in every country and upgrade the capacities and rights of actors in the informal economy, including women. Sectoral policies should support small and micro-enterprises in the informal economy, where the vast majority of workers making less than US\$1.25 a day are earning a living.
- e. Stimulus packages in response to the on-going crisis must be maintained but refocused on providing employment-intensive investments in social infrastructure and quality public services. In the face of calls to phase out stimulus measures for fiscal consolidation, these investments should be made permanent with efforts to regain fiscal space including through international cooperation.
- f. Promote banking services, micro-insurance and other financial services that can reach low-income and remote communities, small and micro-enterprises. Facilitate loan guarantees to micro-credit institutions and other measures to decentralize access to finance such as mobile phone banking and more broadly, branchless banking using postal and other retail outlets.
- g. Develop enabling and proportionate regulatory and supervisory frameworks conducive to financial inclusion, taking into account the peculiarities of reaching out to underserved communities. Ensure an appropriate level of consumer protection, as a core element to build long-term relationships, based on trust and confidence.
- h. Governments and donors should invest in women smallholder farmers as a key to halving hunger as it results in twice as much growth as investment in any other sector. Governments should remove judicial and other obstacles that female entrepreneurs and women business leaders are confronted with, notably in terms of access to land and credit. In addition, aid to agriculture should focus on staple crops, the promotion of local production for local use and the preservation of biodiversity and traditional knowledge.
- i. Global spending on food security should be increased by at least US\$40 billion per year to tackle urgent hunger needs.

- j. Dialogue between small farmers, scientists, agribusinesses, non-governmental organizations, think tanks and government services should be promoted to explore sustainable agricultural practices that improve productivity, build on indigenous knowledge, while preserving and restoring soils and the natural environment.
- k. Support stronger organization of small farmers to develop more equitable relations in their partnerships with the other actors in the supply chain to raise their income. Promote the use of new information and communication technologies (ICTs) to deliver knowledge and information to farmers.
- l. A universal social protection floor should be established to include elements such as an employment guarantee, cash transfers, cash and food packages, public works employment schemes, free school meals, unemployment benefits and other social grants. Care must be taken in the design of these schemes to avoid a gendered division of work as the instrument and channel for delivering services.
- m. Special measures should be taken to ensure that people living in extreme poverty, including women and children, and other vulnerable and excluded groups, such as indigenous peoples and the disabled do not get bypassed by social protection. The universal social protection floor should be explicitly framed within basic human rights.

MDG 2 – ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

- 15. It was noted that strong gains have been made toward the realization of Goal 2. School user fees have been dropped in many countries, allowing some of the world's poorest children to access school. Forty million more children have been able to access school in the last eight years. The world has the know-how and resources to ensure everyone has an education. Yet progress is still far too slow: at current rates the education goals will not be met in the next 100 years, let alone by 2015.
- 16. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 2 were:
 - a. Sickness and malnutrition, poor planning and poor infrastructure are among the barriers to access education that can often become insurmountable for many children and young people. Achievement on all other Goals directly impacts the achievement of education targets.

- b. While investment in primary education is essential, it is also important to invest in the expansion of post-primary education, especially for adolescent girls. The transition to secondary school must become as natural and inevitable as entry into primary school. In order to build on gains in education in the past decade, governments and other stakeholders should consider making this a key development priority.
- c. Achievement of the MDG targets will only be possible if adolescents are able to successfully transition from school to decent work. Strengthen opportunities for adolescents so they can make a successful transition into remunerative work. Girls especially should see their future economic possibilities within both the books they read, and the career guidance they receive so that they are encouraged to learn skills that are more relevant to labour market opportunities.

MDG 3 – PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

17. It was repeatedly emphasized that advancing gender equality is not simply a function of MDG 3, but an underlying aspect of all of the Goals. Women comprise two thirds of the people living in extreme poverty and any attempt to alleviate poverty must examine the gender discrimination underlying Goal 1. Violence against women is also an impediment to women's participation in development and their ability to exercise their human rights.

18. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 3 were:

- a. Immediately scale up meaningful participation of women in decision-making – at all levels. In particular efforts to encourage and make it possible for women to become elected officials should be further accelerated.
- b. Gender-based violence should be addressed in the MDGs, as recommended by the Secretary-General's In-Depth Study on All Forms of Violence Against Women in 2006. It should be established as a target in the MDG agenda.
- c. Progress on women's empowerment could be better monitored and be more efficient through the development of more systematic data collection disaggregated by age and gender.
- d. Taking into account existing mandates, the Outcome Document should support the rapid establishment of the consolidated gender

equality entity. This new UN body can serve as a catalyst for accelerating action at country level to meet the MDGs.

MDG 4, 5, 6: IMPROVING GLOBAL HEALTH FOR ALL

19. Throughout the sessions, participants highlighted the strong interlinkages between the three health MDGs (4, 5, 6) and the other Goals. While acknowledging that significant progress had been made on some health-related targets, they noted that many obstacles remained to achieving the health MDGs by 2015. In particular, they pointed to the alarming results in the area of maternal health and also to the risk of major regressions in other areas, notably HIV/AIDS and child mortality. If further progress is to be made on the health MDGs, more attention should be paid to the needs and perspectives of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

20. The main recommendations in regard to the three health-related MDGs were:

- a. Participants pointed to the shortage and inequitable distribution of health workers within countries as one of the greatest obstacles to achievement. To address this problem, governments should assess their health system; strengthen their health workforce; train workers; and ensure a fair distribution of human and material resources. National health plans need to be fully funded. Predictable and sustainable financing mechanisms should be put in place.
- b. Additional international development assistance is needed to scale up national health systems. Further technical and scientific support and capacity-building assistance should be provided.
- c. Barriers to access health services are still numerous, in particular for marginalized groups. Barriers include: user fees, informal fees, inadequate and unaffordable transportation, poor communications and distance from health facilities.
- d. Health systems need to be accountable to communities, including the most disadvantaged and marginalized. Governments should develop accountability mechanisms to report on and monitor health services; to release detailed data about government and donor aid for health and related performance indicators; and to strengthen the relationship between health workers and communities.
- e. The research and development of innovative medicines and vaccines needs to be further developed and supported. Greater

efforts need to be made to find the right balance between the use of intellectual property rights for innovation and access to affordable essential drugs. At the same time the recognition and respect for the traditional medicines and practices of indigenous peoples should be improved.

- f. Sexual and reproductive health services must be accessible, affordable and culturally sensitive. Comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services should include contraception, maternity care, safe abortion services, prevention, diagnosis, counselling and treatment. Comprehensive sexuality education for children and young people, both in and out of school should be encouraged.
- g. HIV/AIDS is not only a health issue. Universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support is a prerequisite for achieving all MDGs. The target of universal access should be extended to 2015. Policies should support the achievement of universal access for the most vulnerable groups, including women and girls, young people, injection drug users, sex workers, men who have sex with men, migrants and others. People living with HIV/AIDS should not be criminalized. Governments should support specific measures to support women and young people, who remain disproportionately, affected by HIV. Community mobilization and direct engagement of people affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic should be promoted amongst all stakeholders.
- h. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has played an important role through its inclusive approach to development. The commitment to “full funding” for the Global Fund should be renewed.

MDG 7 – ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- 21. It was broadly recognized that the Millennium Development Goals will not be achieved without greater advancements in Goal 7. In particular it was noted that progress on improving sustainable access to improved water and sanitation is lacking: two million child deaths could be prevented every year with the realization of these most basic rights, 443 million lost school days could be recovered and needless economic waste that drains up to 5% of some countries’ gross domestic product could be avoided.
- 22. Climate change is an important variable in the process of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Climate change impacts are already

negatively affecting lives and livelihoods, in particular rural women, indigenous peoples and small farmers.

23. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 7 were:

- a. Strengthen support for national plans to achieve water and sanitation for all, and make sure resources are allocated in a transparent manner, and that services get to the poor and marginalized. Water, sanitation and hygiene policies should be integrated with other sectors, such as health and education.
- b. Large-scale investment in green infrastructure, as a response to the climate crisis and to further promote more sustainable development pathways, should be prioritized. Introducing renewable energies, green construction and transportation could enhance energy efficiency. In turn, this could also stimulate green and decent employment creation across a range of sectors.
- c. Governments should scale up mitigation, adaptation, financing and technology in response to climate change. To achieve this, it is imperative that developed countries set binding targets to reduce emissions by 40% by 2020. They must also pay their “fair share” of the cost of tackling the effects of climate change in developing countries. Poor farmers’ vulnerability to climate change should be reduced by investment in sustainable agriculture, local irrigation schemes and better use of local biodiversity.
- d. Ecologically destructive activities must cease and early warning systems for natural disasters should be in place.
- e. It is also important to ensure the full and effective participation of people, particularly indigenous groups, in the mechanisms of regulation, respecting the principal of free, prior and informed consent.

MDG 8 – DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

24. Many participants called for a major breakthrough in the global partnership for development. Governments must honour this partnership and scale up the mobilization of resources to finance all the MDGs and provide the policy and fiscal space needed to prevent further MDG regressions caused by systemic shocks, and reorient development strategies towards more equitable and sustainable paths.

25. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 8 were:

- a. Donor countries should commit to interim targets between 2010 and 2015.
- b. To strengthen national ownership, budget support should increasingly be used as the main modality for aid delivery to countries committed to poverty reduction and good domestic accountability systems.
- c. All Member States should commit to significant reductions in military expenditure, the savings of which should be earmarked as resources to meet the MDGs.
- d. Emergency support for counter-cyclical crisis response and mitigation should be in the form of grants not loans, especially for Least-Developed Countries (LDCs), to avert a new debt crisis and further MDG regressions.
- e. Debt cancellation (not diverted from ODA) to the poorest countries should be part of the crisis response. All odious and illegitimate debt should be audited and cancelled. A fair and transparent debt workout mechanism should be established to ensure enforceable and equitable arbitration of sovereign debt restructuring under UN auspices.
- f. Implement a Financial Transactions Tax to recoup the losses to tax payers caused by financial rescue plans, help stabilize financial markets and generate the hundreds of billions of dollars needed each year to support developing countries to transition to more equitable and sustainable development paths capable of meeting all MDGs. The allocation of these funds should be managed within a UN framework.
- g. In order to combat capital flight, tax competition, corporate tax evasion and transfer pricing and to enable developing countries to mobilize domestic resources, adopt a multilateral agreement on automatic exchange of information, country-by-country reporting by transnational corporations, starting with the establishment of a United Nations Intergovernmental Commission on Tax Matters.
- h. Establish a new global reserve system based on a supranational global reserve currency, as well as regional currencies. In addition continuing to explore the potential of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) for development, including through reforms in the areas of allocation, interest charges, composition of the basket, transferability and use.

- i. Support regional initiatives that decentralize finance and empower people of the global South to exercise control over their own development paths, notably through alternative regional development banks and monetary funds and currency cooperation.
- j. Regulate and reform the credit rating agency industry into proper independent supervision institution(s), based on more transparency about ratings and strict regulation - including on conflict of interest.
- k. Recognize the right of developing countries to use capital management techniques not only for crisis prevention but to direct investments to meet the MDGs and other development goals.
- l. Agree to cooperate internationally to re-regulate financial markets to rein in financial speculation in general, and speculation in food and commodity markets in particular.
- m. Review the current Doha trade agenda and all existing multilateral, regional and bilateral trade agreements, as well as those under negotiation, with a view to removing elements that could lead to further MDG regressions caused by inappropriate trade liberalization. Endorse the call by LDCs for an “early harvest” of unilateral trade measures in favour of LDCs.
- n. Support the adoption of food and livelihoods safeguard mechanisms in all trade agreements – without *quid pro quo* concessions by developing countries, as an essential means to stabilize progress.
- o. Support the right of developing countries to fully use the flexibilities within the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIP) to source affordable medicines.
- p. Fully support the proposal for a Global Economic Council of the UN General Assembly, as an inclusive forum for deliberations and decision-making on global economic and financial questions and policy coherence with development objectives; and call on the General Assembly Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development to bring this proposal back on the table for serious consideration.

Informal Interactive Hearings of the General Assembly with Non-governmental organizations, Civil Society organizations and the Private Sector (14-15 June 2010, New York)

Programme and Active Participants

Programme

Monday, 14 June 2010

- 10:00 a.m. to 10:30a.m. Opening of the Hearings
- 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Session on “Building a better tomorrow: local actions, national strategies and global structures”
- 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Session on “Equal and inclusive partnerships: Accountability in the fight against poverty”

Tuesday, 15 June 2010

- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Session on “Sustaining development and withstanding crises”
- 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Session on “From voice to policy: 1660 days left”
- 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Closing of the Hearings.

Active Participants by Theme

Session 1: Building a better tomorrow: local actions, national strategies and global structures (Monday, 14 June; 10:30-13:00)

Speakers:

- Ms. Farah Kabir, ActionAid
- Dr. David Winjobi, Global Call to action Against Poverty
- Ms. Neha Sood, Youth Coalition
- Ms. Marie Gad, BUSINESSEUROPE
- Mr. Guillermo Tapia Nicola, FLACMA (Latin American Federation of Municipalities and Associations)

Respondents:

- Mr. Denis Godlevsky, International Treatment Preparedness Coalition in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- Mr. Emmanuel Korbia Edudzie, Youth Empowerment Synergy
- Mr. Mesfin Loha, World Vision
- Ms. Deepali Sood, Plan International
- Dr. Nurgul Djanaeva, Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan
- Ms. Silvina Vatnick, Centro para la Estabilidad Financiera
- Mr. Eric Friedman, Physicians for Human Rights
- Ms. Gulalai Ismael, AG: Girls Aware

Session 2: Equal and inclusive partnerships: Accountability in the fight against poverty (Monday, 14 June; 15:00-18:00)

Speakers:

- Ms. Cecilia Blondet Montero, Transparency International
- Ms. Marina Durano, Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era
- Ms. Martha Sanchez Nestor, Alianza de Mujeres Indigenas de Centroamerica y Mexico
- Mr. Mario Ottiglio, International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Associations (IFPMA)
- Ms. Siphwe Hlophe, Swaziland for Positive Living/Fundacion para Estudio Investigacion de la Mujer

Respondents:

- Mr. Imed Eddine Chaker, International Disability Alliance/Arab Organization of Disabled People
- Ms. Valdênia Aparecida Paulino Lanfranchi, Centro de Defesa dos Direitos Humanos Dom Oscar Romero (CEDHOR)
- Mr. Zhong Zhau, Green Camel Bell
- Mr. Theunis Keulder, Namibia Institute for Democracy
- Mr. Seydi Gassama, Amnesty International
- Mr. Michel Roy, Centre de Recherche et d'Information sur le Développement (CRID - The Research and Information Centre for Development)
- Ms. Lydia Mungherera, ATHENA Network
- Mr. Marco Aurelio Ugarte Ochoa, PhD, International Movement ATD Fourth World

Session 3: Sustaining development and withstanding crises (Tuesday, 15 June; 10:00-13:00)

Speakers:

- Dr. Peter Ozo Eson, Nigerian Labor Congress/International Trade Union Confederation
- Ms. Constance Okollet, Osukuru United Women's Network
- Ms. Merlie Mendoza, Caritas Manila
- Ms. Bhumika Muchhala, Third World Network
- Mr. Ajay Shriram, International Fertilizer Industry Association

Respondents:

- Ms. Sizani Ngubane, Rural Women's Movement
- Ms. Tarcila Rivera Zea, Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas
- Ms. Jacqueline Sharpe, International Planned Parenthood Federation
- Ms. Joan Hu Yuanqiong, China Access to Medicines Research Group
- Dr. Radhika Balakrishnan, Center for Women's Global Leadership
- Mr. Mwenda Joseph Matika, Pan African Climate Justice Alliance
- Ms. Lajana Manandhar, Fresh Water Action Network South Asia
- Mr. Fanwell Bokosi, Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development

Session 4: From voice to policy: 1660 days left (Tuesday, 15 June; 15:00-17:30)

Speakers:

- Mr. Irungu Houghton, Oxfam International
- Mr. Roberto Bissio, Third World Institute - Instituto del Tercer Mundo
- Ms. Athena Peralta, World Council of Churches
- Mr. Chris De Noose, World Savings Banks Institute
- Ms. Berry Vrbancovic, Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Respondents:

- Mr. Ziad Abdul Samad, Arab NGO Network for Development
- Dr. Joanne Carter, RESULTS/RESULTS Educational Fund
- Mr. Abdullah Denovan, APN Plus
- Ms. M. Celeste McKay, Native Women's Association of Canada
- Ms. Mandisa Monakali, Ilitha Labantu
- Mr. Aldo Caliari, The Center of Concern
- Ms. Charlotte Bunch, Women's Environment and Development Organization
- Mr. Chrisstofer Grondstadt, European Youth Forum

Background Document

Informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector (14-15 June 2010)

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 64/184 of 21 December 2009, decided to hold the High-level Plenary Meeting from 20 to 22 September 2010 to galvanize commitment, rally support and spur collective action in order to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

2. Recognizing the importance of civil society and the private sector in achieving the MDGs, the resolution further requested the President of the General Assembly to organize two days of informal interactive hearings with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector to provide an input to the preparatory process of the High-level Meeting.

3. By the same resolution, the General Assembly decided that the President of the General Assembly would preside over the informal interactive hearings and encouraged Member States to actively participate in the hearings at the ambassadorial level to facilitate interaction between Member States and representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector.

II. Information for participants

A. Date and venue

4. The informal interactive hearings will be held on Monday and Tuesday, 14 and 15 June 2010 in the General Assembly Hall at United Nations Headquarters.

B. Participation in the Informal Interactive Hearings

Selection and Seating

5. The list of invited participants was determined by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with Member States and representatives of civil society and the private sector. The President of the General Assembly established a Task Force with 13 members from civil society and the private sector to advise him in the selection of speakers and preparation for the meeting. Every attempt was made to ensure that the list of invited participants was balanced in terms of geographic representation, gender, local, national and international levels and each of the eight MDGs.

6. To allow for an informal interactive exchange, all Member States, invited participants, and some representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC will have assigned seats on the floor of the General Assembly Hall. Member States will each be assigned four seats. This arrangement applies specifically to these informal interactive hearings and will in no way create a precedent for other meetings.

7. Remaining representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC will be seated in the 3rd floor Gallery. Observers from other civil society organizations and the private sector will be seated on the 4th floor Balcony.

Schedules and speakers

8. The opening plenary meeting will be held on Monday, 14 June at 10 a.m. The President of the General Assembly will deliver an opening statement. A prerecorded video message from Secretary-General, who will be away on official travel, will be played.

9. Following the opening plenary meeting, four sequential informal interactive sessions will be held, followed by a short closing session with a statement from the President of the General Assembly (see Annex 1). The themes for the hearings will be based on the comprehensive Report of the Secretary-General "Keeping the promise" (A/64/665) and have been developed in consultation with the Task Force.

10. The four sessions of the Hearings will be chaired by the President of the General Assembly. Each individual session will consist of presentations (of no more than 10 minutes) by five invited representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society and private sector followed by an exchange of views with Member States. Participating in the exchange of views will be an additional eight respondents, also representing civil society and the private sector, and observers of the General Assembly. Speakers taking the floor during the exchange of views are asked to limit their interventions to three minutes.

11. To provide for an informal, interactive exchange, there will be no list of speakers. The President of the General Assembly will call on Member States and other participants, in the order in which they ask for the floor, on the understanding that the exchange will balance the participation of Member States and other participants.

12. The President of the General Assembly will deliver his closing remarks, briefly summing up the meeting.

C. Outcome of the Informal Interactive Hearings

13. In accordance with A/RES/64/184, the hearings will provide an input to the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting. The President of the General Assembly will prepare a summary of the hearings to be issued as a General Assembly document prior to the High-level Plenary Meeting.

D. Media arrangements

14. The Hearings, including the informal interactive sessions, will be open to the media and will be broadcast in-house by United Nations Television, including to the media working area. A programme of media briefings and press conferences will be arranged. Media advisories will be distributed on-site and through United Nations Information Centres/Services, and will be made available electronically on the web site for the Hearings, at www.un-ngls.org/mdg2010.

F. Side events

15. A number of side events are being organized by Member States and entities of the United Nations system in collaboration with non-governmental organizations for the participants of the Hearings. The calendar of those events will be made available at the Hearings and will be posted on www.un.org/ecosoc/ngo.

G. List of invited representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector

16. The list of invited participants is posted on www.un-ngls.org/mdg2010

Annex 1. Programme

Monday, 14 June 2010

- 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Plenary Meeting: Opening of the Hearings
- 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. First Session: "Building a better tomorrow: local actions, national strategies and global structures"
- 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Second Session: "Equal and inclusive partnerships: Accountability in the fight against poverty"

Tuesday, 15 June 2010

- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Third Session: "Sustaining development and withstanding crises"
- 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Fourth Session: "From voice to policy: 1660 days left"
- 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Closing of the Hearings

20-22 September 2010

64th Session of the General Assembly

High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The Millennium Development Goals are the highest profile articulation of the internationally agreed development goals associated with the United Nations development agenda. They are the world's quantified, time-bound targets for addressing extreme poverty, hunger and disease, and for promoting gender equality, education and environmental sustainability and for building a new global partnership for development. With only five years left, the prospect of falling short in meeting the Goals is real but falling short would be an unacceptable failure.

Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals remains feasible with adequate commitment, policies, resources and effort. The High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals in September 2010 will bring Heads of Government and State together to galvanize commitment, rally support and spur collective action in order to reach the MDGs by 2015.

**CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE OUTCOME DOCUMENT OF THE 2010 MDG SUMMIT**

General Assembly, 64th legislative session 2010 September Summit consultations Suggested timeline: April-July	MAY		JUNE		JULY	
	1 - 15	16 - 31	1 - 15	16 - 30	1 - 15	16 - 31
AM Session			2 meetings each week	1-2 meetings - 3rd week of June		
PM Session	11 – GA Hall	19 – GA Hall		1 meeting – 4th week of June		

Preparation of outcome document						
GA joint plenary session on elements of structure	11 May					
Finalize draft structure	13 May					
Letter sharing revised draft structure with MS and requesting initial elements	14 May					
Informally request inputs and elements from UN System	14 May					
GA joint plenary session on revised draft structure & elements		19 May				
Submission of initial draft outcome document		End of May				
Consultations on draft outcome document						
Share document with MS			Early June			
Consultations on draft outcome (general comments)			1 st week of June (7-11) (2 meetings)			
Consultation on draft outcome (line by line)			2 nd week of June (14-18) (2 meetings)			
Consultation on draft outcome(line by line)				3 rd week of June (21-25) (1 or 2 meeting)		
Consultation on draft outcome(line by line)				4 th week of June (28-2 July) (1 meeting)		



General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session

Agenda items 48 and 114

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Draft outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 63/302 of 9 July 2009 and 64/184 of 21 December 2009,

Recalling also its decision 64/555 of 15 April 2010,

Decides to refer the draft outcome document annexed to the present resolution to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, to be held from 20 to 22 September 2010, for its consideration.

Annex

Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals

1. We, Heads of State and Government, gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, welcome the progress made since we last met here in 2005 while expressing deep concern that it falls far short of what is needed. Recalling the development goals and commitments emanating from the Millennium Declaration¹ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,² we reaffirm our resolve to work together for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples.

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² See resolution 60/1.



2. We reaffirm that we continue to be guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, with full respect for international law and its principles.

3. We also reaffirm the importance of freedom, peace and security, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, the rule of law, gender equality and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies for development.

4. We underscore the continued relevance of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the commitments contained therein, including the Millennium Development Goals, which have raised awareness and continue to generate real and important development gains. Together these outcomes and commitments have played a vital role in shaping a broad development vision and constitute the overarching framework for the development activities of the United Nations. We strongly reiterate our determination to ensure the timely and full implementation of these outcomes and commitments.

5. We recognize that progress, including on poverty eradication, is being made despite setbacks, including setbacks caused by the financial and economic crisis. In this context, we recognize the deeply inspiring examples of progress made by countries in all regions of the world through cooperation, partnerships, actions and solidarity. We are deeply concerned, however, that the number of people living in extreme poverty and hunger surpasses 1 billion and that inequalities between and within countries remains a significant challenge. We are also deeply concerned about the alarming global levels of maternal and child mortality. We believe that eradication of poverty and hunger, as well as combating inequality at all levels, is essential to create a more prosperous and sustainable future for all.

6. We reiterate our deep concern at the multiple and interrelated crises, including the financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and ongoing concerns over food security, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which have increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and adversely affected development gains, in particular in developing countries. But this will not deter us in our efforts to make the Millennium Development Goals a reality for all.

7. We are determined to collectively advance and strengthen the global partnership for development, as the centrepiece of our cooperation, in the years ahead. The global partnership has been reaffirmed in the Millennium Declaration,¹ the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,³ the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”),⁴ the 2005 World Summit Outcome² and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome

³ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus.⁵

8. We are committed to making every effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, including through actions, policies and strategies defined in the present Declaration in support of developing countries, in particular those countries that are lagging most behind and those goals that are most off track, thus improving the lives of the poorest people.

9. We are convinced that the Millennium Development Goals can be achieved, including in the poorest countries, with renewed commitment, effective implementation and intensified collective action by all Member States and other relevant stakeholders at both the domestic and international levels, using national development strategies and appropriate policies and approaches that have proved to be effective, with strengthened institutions at all levels, increased mobilization of resources for development, increased effectiveness of development cooperation and an enhanced global partnership for development.

10. We reaffirm that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process. There is no one size fits all. We reiterate that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies, domestic resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized. At the same time, domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economic system and, therefore, an effective use of trade and investment opportunities can help countries to fight poverty. Development efforts at the national level need to be supported by an enabling national and international environment that complements national actions and strategies.

11. We acknowledge that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger.

12. We recognize that gender equality, the empowerment of women, women's full enjoyment of all human rights and the eradication of poverty are essential to economic and social development, including the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals. We reaffirm the need for the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.⁶ Achieving gender equality and empowerment of women is both a key development goal and an important means for achieving all of the Millennium Development Goals. We welcome the establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), and pledge our full support for its operationalization.

13. We acknowledge that peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being. We recognize that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing. We reaffirm that our common fundamental values, including freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for all human rights, respect for nature and shared responsibility, are essential for achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

⁵ See resolution 63/239.

⁶ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

14. We are convinced that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership, legitimacy and unique mandate, plays a vital role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and in supporting the acceleration of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. We reaffirm the need for a strong United Nations to meet the challenges of the changing global environment.

15. We recognize that all the Millennium Development Goals are interconnected and mutually reinforcing. We therefore underline the need to pursue these Goals through a holistic and comprehensive approach.

16. We acknowledge the diversity of the world and recognize that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind. We emphasize the importance of culture for development and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

17. We call on civil society, including non-governmental organizations, voluntary associations and foundations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders at the local, national, regional and global levels, to enhance their role in national development efforts as well as their contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, and commit as national Governments to the inclusion of these stakeholders.

18. We acknowledge the role of national parliaments in furthering the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

A mixed story: successes, uneven progress, challenges and opportunities

19. We recognize that developing countries have made significant efforts towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and have had major successes in realizing some of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals. Successes have been made in combating extreme poverty, improving school enrolment and child health, reducing child deaths, expanding access to clean water, improving prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, expanding access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care, and controlling malaria, tuberculosis and neglected tropical diseases.

20. We acknowledge that much more needs to be done in achieving the Millennium Development Goals as progress has been uneven among regions and between and within countries. Hunger and malnutrition rose again from 2007 through 2009, partially reversing prior gains. There has been slow progress in reaching full and productive employment and decent work for all, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women, achieving environmental sustainability and providing basic sanitation, and new HIV infections still outpace the number of people starting treatment. In particular, we express grave concern over the slow progress being made on reducing maternal mortality and improving maternal and reproductive health. Progress on other Millennium Development Goals is fragile and must be sustained to avoid reversal.

21. We underline the central role of the global partnership for development and the importance of Goal 8 in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. We

recognize that without substantial international support, several of the Goals are likely to be missed in many developing countries by 2015.

22. We are deeply concerned about the impact of the financial and economic crisis, the worst since the Great Depression. It has reversed development gains in many developing countries and threatens to seriously undermine the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

23. We take note of the lessons learned and successful policies and approaches in the implementation and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and recognize that with increased political commitment these could be replicated and scaled up for accelerating progress, including by:

(a) Strengthening national ownership and leadership of development strategies;

(b) Adopting forward-looking, macroeconomic policies that promote sustainable development and lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, increase productive employment opportunities and promote agricultural and industrial development;

(c) Promoting national food security strategies that strengthen support for smallholder farmers and contribute to poverty eradication;

(d) Adopting policies and measures oriented towards benefiting the poor and addressing social and economic inequalities;

(e) Supporting participatory, community-led strategies aligned with national development priorities and strategies;

(f) Promoting universal access to public and social services and providing social protection floors;

(g) Improving capacity to deliver quality services equitably;

(h) Implementing social policies and programmes, including appropriate conditional cash-transfer programmes, and investing in basic services for health, education, water and sanitation;

(i) Ensuring the full participation of all segments of society, including the poor and disadvantaged, in decision-making processes;

(j) Respecting, promoting and protecting all human rights, including the right to development;

(k) Increasing efforts to reduce inequality and eliminate social exclusion and discrimination;

(l) Enhancing opportunities for women and girls and advancing the economic, legal and political empowerment of women;

(m) Investing in the health of women and children to drastically reduce the number of women and children who die from preventable causes;

(n) Working towards transparent and accountable systems of governance at the national and international levels;

(o) Working towards greater transparency and accountability in international development cooperation, in both donor and developing countries, focusing on

adequate and predictable financial resources as well as their improved quality and targeting;

(p) Promoting South-South and triangular cooperation, which complement North-South cooperation;

(q) Promoting effective public-private partnerships;

(r) Expanding access to financial services for the poor, especially poor women, including through adequately funded microfinance plans, programmes and initiatives supported by development partners;

(s) Strengthening statistical capacity to produce reliable disaggregated data for better programmes and policy evaluation and formulation.

24. We recognize that the scaling-up of the successful policies and approaches outlined above will need to be complemented by a strengthened global partnership for development, as set out in the action agenda below.

25. We take note of the first formal debate organized by the President of the General Assembly in which different views on the notion of human security were presented by Member States, as well as the ongoing efforts to define the notion of human security, and recognize the need to continue the discussion and to achieve an agreement on the definition of human security in the General Assembly.

26. We recognize that climate change poses serious risks and challenges to all countries, especially developing countries. We commit to addressing climate change in accordance with the principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,⁷ including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. We maintain the Framework Convention as the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change. Addressing climate change will be of key importance in safeguarding and advancing progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

27. We recognize that attention must be focused on the particular needs of developing countries and on the large and increasing economic and social inequalities. Disparities between developed and developing countries and inequalities between the rich and the poor, and between rural and urban populations, inter alia, remain persistent and significant and need to be addressed.

28. We also recognize that policies and actions must focus on the poor and those living in the most vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, so that they benefit from progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. In this respect there is a particular need to provide more equitable access to economic opportunities and social services.

29. We recognize the urgency of paying attention to the many developing countries with specific needs, and the unique challenges they confront in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

30. We acknowledge that the least developed countries face significant constraints and structural impediments in their development efforts. We express grave concern that the least developed countries are lagging behind in meeting internationally

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. In that context, we call for continued implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010⁸ and look forward to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Istanbul in 2011, which would further invigorate the international partnership to address the special needs of these countries.

31. We reiterate our recognition of the special needs of and challenges faced by the landlocked developing countries, caused by their lack of territorial access to the sea aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and also the concern that the economic growth and social well-being of landlocked developing countries remain very vulnerable to external shocks. We stress the need to overcome these vulnerabilities and build resilience. We call for the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,⁹ as presented in the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action.¹⁰

32. We recognize the unique and particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States and reaffirm our commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address those vulnerabilities through the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.¹¹ We also recognize that the adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise present significant risks to the sustainable development of small island developing States. We note the uneven progress of small island developing States in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and express concern that progress in some areas has been lagging. In this regard, we welcome the five-year high-level review of the Mauritius Strategy in September 2010 to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States.

33. We recognize that more attention should be given to Africa, especially those countries most off track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. Progress has been made in some African countries, but the situation in others remains a grave concern, not least because the continent is among the hardest hit by the financial and economic crisis. We note that aid to Africa has increased in recent years; however, it still lags behind the commitments that have been made. We therefore strongly call for the delivery of those commitments.

34. We recognize also the specific development challenges of middle-income countries. These countries face unique challenges in their efforts to achieve their

⁸ A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

⁹ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

¹⁰ See resolution 63/2.

¹¹ See *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. We also reiterate that their efforts in that regard should be based on national development plans that integrate the Millennium Development Goals and should be adequately supported by the international community, through various forms, taking into account the needs and the capacity to mobilize domestic resources of these countries.

35. We acknowledge that disaster risk reduction and increasing resilience to all types of natural hazard, including geological and hydro-meteorological hazards, in developing countries, in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,¹² can have multiplier effects and accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Reducing vulnerabilities to these hazards is therefore a high priority for developing countries. We recognize that small island developing States continue to grapple with natural disasters, some of which are of increased intensity, including as a result of the effects of climate change, impeding progress towards sustainable development.

The way forward: an action agenda for achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015

36. We resolve to promote and strengthen national ownership and leadership of development as a key determinant of progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, with each country taking the primary responsibility for its own development. We encourage all countries to continue to design, implement and monitor development strategies tailored to their specific situations, including through broad consultations and participation of all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate for each national context. We call on the United Nations system and other development actors to support the design and implementation of these strategies, at the request of Member States.

37. We recognize that the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rules-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, that is, the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and international development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations. It is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space.

38. We reaffirm the Monterrey Consensus³ and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development⁴ in their entirety, and their integrity and holistic approach, and recognize that mobilizing financial resources for development and the effective use of all those resources are central to the global partnership for development, including in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

39. We call for the expeditious delivery of commitments already made by developed countries in the context of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration. Short-term liquidity, long-term development financing and grants, in

¹² A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

accordance with these commitments, will be utilized to assist developing countries to adequately respond to their development priorities. In our common pursuit of growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, a critical challenge is to ensure the necessary internal conditions for mobilizing domestic resources, both public and private, sustaining adequate levels of productive investment and increasing human capacity. Private international capital flows, particularly foreign direct investment, along with international financial stability, are vital complements to national and international development efforts.

40. We stress the need for further reform and modernization of the international financial institutions to better enable them to respond to and prevent financial and economic emergencies, effectively promote development and better serve the needs of Member States. We reaffirm the importance of enhancing the voice and representation of developing countries in the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and note the reforms undertaken by the World Bank and the progress made by the International Monetary Fund in that direction.

41. We call for increased efforts at all levels to enhance policy coherence for development. We affirm that achievement of the Millennium Development Goals requires mutually supportive and integrated policies across a wide range of economic, social and environmental issues for sustainable development. We call on all countries to formulate and implement policies consistent with the objectives of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development.

42. We reiterate the important role of trade as an engine of growth and development and its contribution to the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. We emphasize the need to resist protectionist tendencies and to rectify any trade distorting measures already taken that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization rules, recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize their flexibilities consistent with their World Trade Organization commitments and obligations. The early and successful conclusion of the Doha Round with a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and development-oriented outcome would provide much needed impetus to international trade and contribute to economic growth and development.

43. We stress that promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth is necessary for accelerating progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, as well as for promoting sustainable development, but it is not sufficient: growth should enable everyone, in particular the poor, to participate in and benefit from economic opportunities and should lead to job creation and income opportunities and be complemented by effective social policies.

44. We commit to redoubling our efforts to reduce maternal and child mortality and improve the health of women and children, including through strengthened national health systems, efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, improved nutrition, and access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, making use of enhanced global partnerships. We stress that accelerating progress on the Millennium Development Goals related to health is essential for making headway also on the other Goals.

45. We reiterate our commitment to ensure by 2015 that children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary education.

46. We emphasize the importance of addressing energy issues, including access to affordable energy, energy efficiency and sustainability of energy sources and use, as part of global efforts for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the promotion of sustainable development.

47. We recognize the importance of developing economic and social infrastructure and productive capacities for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, particularly in developing countries, bearing in mind the need to enhance employment and income opportunities for all, with a special focus on the poor.

48. We stress the need to create full and productive employment and decent work for all and further resolve to promote the Global Jobs Pact as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job intensive recovery and sustainable development. We call on Member States to take effective measures for promoting social inclusion and integration and incorporate these into their national development strategies.

49. We resolve to take further effective measures and actions, in conformity with international law to remove obstacles and constraints, strengthen support and meet the special needs of the regions and countries struggling to achieve economic and social development, including least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries, Africa, and people living in areas affected by complex humanitarian emergencies and in areas affected by terrorism. In addition, we acknowledge the need to take concerted actions in conformity with international law to remove the obstacles to the full realization of the rights of peoples living under foreign occupation to promote the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

50. We recognize the specific development challenges related to peacebuilding and early recovery in countries affected by conflict and the effect of these challenges on their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. We request donor countries to provide adequate, timely and predictable development assistance in support of these efforts, tailored to country-specific needs and situations, at the request of the recipient country. We are determined to strengthen international partnerships to address these needs, demonstrate progress and enable improved international support.

51. We consider that promoting universal access to social services and providing social protection floors can make an important contribution to consolidating and achieving further development gains. Social protection systems that address and reduce inequality and social exclusion are essential for protecting the gains towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

52. We stress that fighting corruption at both the national and international levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication, the fight against hunger and sustainable development. We are determined to take urgent and decisive steps to continue to combat corruption in all of its manifestations, which requires strong institutions at all levels, and urge all

States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹³ and begin its implementation.

53. We recognize that the respect for and promotion and protection of human rights is an integral part of effective work towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

54. We acknowledge the importance of gender equality and empowerment of women to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Women are agents of development. We call for action to ensure the equal access of women and girls to education, basic services, health care, economic opportunities and decision-making at all levels. We stress that investing in women and girls has a multiplier effect on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth. We recognize the need for gender mainstreaming in the formulation and implementation of development policies.

55. We reaffirm that States should, in accordance with international law, take concerted, positive steps to ensure respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, on the basis of equality and non-discrimination and recognizing the value and diversity of their distinctive identities, cultures and social organization.

56. We resolve to work with all stakeholders and strengthen partnerships in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The private sector plays a vital role in development in many countries, including through public-private partnerships and by generating employment and investment, developing new technologies and enabling sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth. We call upon the private sector to further contribute to poverty eradication, including by adapting its business models to the needs and possibilities of the poor. Foreign direct investment and trade, as well as public-private partnerships, are important for the scaling-up of initiatives. In this connection we note the work of the United Nations Global Compact, in which companies have committed to corporate social responsibility and action in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

57. We stress the importance of strengthening regional and subregional cooperation for accelerating national development strategy implementation, including through regional and subregional development banks and initiatives. We also emphasize the importance of strengthening regional and subregional institutions to provide effective support to regional and national development strategies.

58. We reaffirm that the United Nations funds, programmes and regional commissions, and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates, have an important role to play in advancing development and in protecting development gains, in accordance with national strategies and priorities, including progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. We will continue to take steps for a strong, well-coordinated, coherent and effective United Nations system in support of the Millennium Development Goals. We emphasize the principle of national ownership and leadership, support the initiative of some countries to use, on a voluntary basis, common country programme documents, and emphasize our support for all

¹³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

countries that wish to continue using the existing frameworks and processes for country-level programming.

59. We stress the need for adequate quantity and quality of funding for the operational activities of the United Nations development system as well as the need to make funding more predictable, effective and efficient. We also reaffirm, in this context, the importance of accountability, transparency and improved results-based management and further harmonized results-based reporting on the work of the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies.

60. We resolve to enhance efforts to mobilize adequate and predictable financial and high-quality technical support, as well as to promote the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable technology and the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms, which is crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

61. We consider that innovative financing mechanisms can make a positive contribution in assisting developing countries to mobilize additional resources for financing for development on a voluntary basis. Such financing should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing. While recognizing the considerable progress in innovative sources of financing for development, we call for scaling-up of present initiatives, where appropriate.

62. We welcome the ongoing efforts to strengthen and support South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation. We stress that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation. We call for the effective implementation of the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,¹⁴ held in Nairobi in December 2009.

63. We recognize the regional efforts being made to advance the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. In this regard, we welcome the convening of the fifteenth African Union summit, in Kampala from 19 to 27 July 2010, with the theme “Maternal, infant and child health and development in Africa”, the launch of the African Union “Campaign on accelerated reduction of maternal mortality in Africa”; the “Africa cares: no woman should die while giving life” campaign; the Special Ministerial Meeting to Review the Millennium Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific: run-up to 2015, held in Jakarta on 3 and 4 August 2010; the report of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on progress in Latin America and the Caribbean towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals; and similar reports produced by other regional commissions, all of which have contributed positively to the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, as well as to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

64. We welcome the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance (ODA) and to increase its development impact, and recognize that the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, along with recent initiatives such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and

¹⁴ See resolution 64/222.

the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action,¹⁵ make important contributions to the efforts of those countries which have committed to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and managing for results. We also bear in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered.

65. We encourage continued efforts in the Development Cooperation Forum, as the focal point within the United Nations system, to carry out a holistic consideration of issues related to international development cooperation, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

66. We consider that the cultural dimension is important for development. We encourage international cooperation in the cultural field, aimed at achieving development objectives.

67. We recognize that sport, as a tool for education, development and peace, can promote cooperation, solidarity, tolerance, understanding, social inclusion and health at the local, national and international levels.

68. We recognize that all countries require adequate, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, including demographic data, in order to design better programmes and policies for sustainable development. We commit to strengthening our national statistical systems, including for effectively monitoring progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. We also reiterate the need to increase efforts in support of statistical capacity-building in developing countries.

69. We take note of the Global Pulse Initiative to develop more up-to-date and actionable data as a joint effort among all relevant stakeholders for rapid impact and vulnerability analysis.

Millennium Development Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

70. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 1, including through:

(a) Addressing the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger, while noting that the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger has a direct impact on the achievement of all the other Millennium Development Goals;

(b) Adopting forward-looking economic policies that lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, and which increase employment opportunities, promote agricultural development and reduce poverty;

(c) Increasing efforts at all levels to mitigate the social and economic impacts, particularly on poverty and hunger, of the multiple crises through global responses that are comprehensive, effective, inclusive and sustainable, taking into account the needs of developing countries;

¹⁵ A/63/539, annex.

(d) Pursuing job-intensive, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women, indigenous people, young people, people with disabilities and rural populations, and promoting small- and medium-sized enterprises through initiatives such as skills enhancement and technical training programmes, vocational training and entrepreneurial skills development. Employers and workers' representatives should be closely associated with these initiatives;

(e) Improving opportunities for young people to gain access to productive employment and decent work through increased investment in youth employment, active labour-market support and public-private partnerships, as well as through the creation of enabling environments to facilitate the participation of young people in labour markets, in accordance with international rules and commitments;

(f) Taking appropriate steps to assist one another in the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, strengthening child protection systems and combating trafficking in children through, inter alia, enhanced international cooperation and assistance, including support for social and economic development, poverty eradication programmes and universal education;

(g) Promoting comprehensive systems of social protection that provide universal access to essential social services, consistent with national priorities and circumstances, by establishing a minimum level of social security and health care for all;

(h) Promoting inclusive financial services, particularly microfinance and including affordable and accessible credit, savings, insurance and payments products, for all segments of society, especially women, people in vulnerable situations and those who would not normally be served or are underserved by traditional financial institutions, as well as for micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises;

(i) Promoting the empowerment and participation of rural women as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development and food security and ensuring their equal access to productive resources, land, financing, technologies, training and markets;

(j) Reaffirming the international commitment to eliminating hunger and to securing access to food for all and reiterating, in this regard, the important role of relevant organizations, particularly the United Nations system;

(k) Supporting the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration of the Rome World Summit on Food Security;

(l) Strengthening international coordination and governance for food security, through the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, of which the Committee on World Food Security is a central component, and reiterating that it is essential to enhance global governance, building on existing institutions and fostering effective partnerships;

(m) Promoting efforts to improve capacity-building in sustainable fisheries management, especially in developing countries, as fish is an important source of animal protein for millions of people and is an essential component in the fight against malnutrition and hunger;

(n) Supporting a comprehensive and coordinated response to address the multiple and complex causes of the global food crisis, including the adoption of political, economic, social, financial and technical solutions in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community, including mitigating the impact of the high volatility of food prices on developing countries. The relevant United Nations organizations have an important role to play in this regard;

(o) Promoting at all levels a strong enabling environment for enhancing agricultural production, productivity and sustainability in developing countries, including through public and private investment, land-use planning, efficient water management, adequate rural infrastructure, including irrigation, and developing strong agricultural value chains and improving access of farmers to markets and land and supportive economic policies and institutions at the national and international level;

(p) Supporting small-scale producers, including women, to increase production of a wide spectrum of traditional and other crops and livestock, and improving their access to markets, credits and inputs, thereby increasing income-earning opportunities for poor people and their ability to purchase food and improve their livelihoods;

(q) Increasing the growth rate of agricultural productivity in developing countries through promoting the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable agricultural technology, as well as the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms, and supporting agricultural research and innovation, extension services and agricultural education in developing countries;

(r) Increasing the sustainable production and augmenting the availability and quality of food including through long-term investment, access of smallholder farmers to markets, credit and inputs, improved land-use planning, crop diversification, commercialization and development of an adequate rural infrastructure and enhanced market access for developing countries;

(s) Delivering on the commitments made to achieve global food security, and providing adequate and predictable resources through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the commitments set out in the L'Aquila Initiative on Global Food Security;

(t) Addressing environmental challenges to sustainable agriculture development such as water quality and availability, deforestation and desertification, land and soil degradation, dust, floods, drought and unpredictable weather patterns and loss of biodiversity, and promoting the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable agricultural technologies and the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms;

(u) Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

(v) Making special efforts to meet the nutritional needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, as well as those living in vulnerable situations, through targeted and effective programming;

(w) Accelerating progress on the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard taking special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples.

Millennium Development Goal 2

Achieve universal primary education

71. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in achieving Millennium Development Goal 2, including through:

(a) Realizing the right of everyone to education and re-emphasizing that education shall be directed at the full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity and shall strengthen respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) Making further progress towards the goal of universal primary education by building on the gains made during the past decade;

(c) Removing barriers, outside and within education systems, so as to provide equitable educational and learning opportunities for all children, since knowledge and education are key factors for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and for the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals, through continued political emphasis on education and by promoting, with the support of the international community, civil society and the private sector, appropriate and targeted, evidence-based measures such as abolishing school fees, providing school meals, ensuring that schools have separate sanitation facilities for boys and girls and in other ways making primary education for all children available, accessible and affordable;

(d) Addressing the root causes of the inequalities, disparities and diverse forms of exclusion and discrimination affecting children, particularly out-of-school children, including by enhancing enrolment, retention, participation and achievement of children, by developing and operationalizing an inclusive education and defining targeted, proactive strategies, policies and programmes, including cross-sectoral approaches, to promote accessibility and inclusion. In this regard, additional efforts should be undertaken to work across sectors to reduce drop-out, repetition and failure rates, especially for the poor, and to eliminate the gender gap in education;

(e) Ensuring quality education and progression through the school system. This requires establishing learning-friendly schools and institutions; increasing the number of teachers and enhancing their quality through comprehensive policies that address issues of recruitment, training, retention, professional development, evaluation, employment and teaching conditions as well as the status of teachers, through increased national capacity, and building more classrooms and improving the material conditions of school buildings and infrastructure and the quality and content of the curriculum, pedagogy and learning and teaching materials, harnessing the capabilities of information and communications technology (ICT) and the assessment of learning outcomes;

(f) Strengthening the sustainability and predictability of funding for national education systems by ensuring adequate national education budgets to, inter alia,

address infrastructural, human resources, financial and administrative constraints. These systems should be supported by adequate and predictable development assistance and international cooperation for education, including through new, voluntary and innovative approaches for education financing that should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of finance;

(g) Continuing to implement national programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide as part of the commitments made in the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All,¹⁶ adopted in 2000 at the World Education Forum, and in the Millennium Development Goals. In this regard, we recognize the important contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, innovative pedagogical methods in literacy;

(h) Supporting the efforts of national Governments to strengthen their capacity to plan and manage education programmes by involving all education providers in line with national policies and educational systems;

(i) Giving greater focus to the transition from primary education and access to secondary education, vocational training and non-formal education and entry into the labour market;

(j) Strengthening efforts to ensure primary education as a fundamental element of the response to and preparedness for humanitarian emergencies, ensuring that affected countries are supported, at their request, in their efforts to restore their education systems by the international community.

Millennium Development Goal 3 Promoting gender equality and empowerment of women

72. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress to achieve Millennium Development Goal 3, including through:

(a) Taking action to achieve the goals of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action⁶ and its twelve critical areas of concern, our commitments in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development¹⁷ and the obligations and commitments of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women¹⁸ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child;¹⁹

(b) Ensuring access to education and successful schooling of girls by removing barriers and expanding support for girls' education through measures such as providing free primary education, a safe environment for schooling and financial assistance such as scholarships and cash transfer programmes, promoting supportive policies to end discrimination against women and girls in education, and tracking completion and attendance rates with a view to retaining girls in schools through secondary levels;

¹⁶ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

¹⁷ *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

¹⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

(c) Empowering women, in particular women living in poverty, through, inter alia, social and economic policies that guarantee them full and equal access to all levels of quality education and training and vocational training, including technical, managerial and entrepreneurial training, and to affordable and adequate public and social services;

(d) Ensuring that women benefit from policy measures to generate full and productive employment and decent work for all, in accordance with commitments by States to International Labour Organization conventions, including policy measures to promote, inter alia, access of women and girls, including mothers and pregnant women, to formal and non-formal education, equal skills development and employment opportunities, closing wage gaps between women and men and recognizing women's unpaid work, including care work;

(e) Investing in infrastructure and labour-saving technologies, especially in rural areas, benefiting women and girls by reducing their burden of domestic activities, affording the opportunity for girls to attend school and women to engage in self-employment or participate in the labour market;

(f) Taking action to improve the numbers and active participation of women in all political and economic decision-making processes, including by investing in women's leadership in local decision-making structures and processes, encouraging appropriate legislative action and creating an even playing field for men and women in political and Government institutions, and intensifying our efforts for the equal participation of women and men as key stakeholders at all levels in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and peacebuilding processes;

(g) Strengthening comprehensive national laws and policies and programmes to enhance accountability and raise awareness, prevent and combat all forms of violence against women and girls everywhere, which undermine their full enjoyment of all human rights, and ensure that women have access to justice and protection, and that all perpetrators of such violence are duly investigated, prosecuted and punished in order to end impunity, in conformity with national legislation, international humanitarian law and international human rights law;

(h) Improving national-level capacity to monitor and report on progress, gaps and opportunities through better generation and use of sex- and age-disaggregated data, including with the support of the international community;

(i) Enhancing the impact of development assistance in advancing gender equality and empowerment of women and girls through targeted activities including capacity-building, as well as through gender mainstreaming and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, involving, as appropriate, civil society and the private sector, with a view to ensuring adequate funding;

(j) Facilitating access by women to affordable microfinance, in particular microcredit, which can contribute to poverty eradication, gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(k) Promoting and protecting women's equal access to adequate housing, property and land, including rights to inheritance, and enabling them to secure access to credit through appropriate constitutional, legislative and administrative measures;

(l) Promoting women's economic empowerment and ensuring women's access to productive resources. In this regard, strengthening gender responsive public management in order to ensure gender equality in resource allocation, capacity development and benefit sharing in all sectors, including in central and local level governments.

Promoting global public health for all to achieve the Millennium Development Goals

73. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in promoting global public health for all, including through:

(a) Realizing the values and principles of primary health care, including equity, solidarity, social justice, universal access to services, multisectoral action, transparency, accountability, community participation and empowerment, as the basis for strengthening health systems, and recall in this regard the Declaration of Alma-Ata;²⁰

(b) Strengthening the capacity of national health systems to deliver equitable and quality health-care services and promoting the widest possible access to health-care services at the point of use, especially to those in vulnerable situations, through public policies that remove barriers to access and use of health-care services, complemented by the support of international programmes, measures and policies that align with national priorities;

(c) Providing and strengthening comprehensive and affordable community-based primary health-care services so as to ensure a continuum from health promotion and disease prevention through to care and rehabilitation, while paying particular attention to poor people and populations, especially in rural and remote areas, with a view to extending health protection to all those in need;

(d) Improving the quality and effectiveness of health-care services delivery by providing integrated health-care services through coordinated approaches at the country level, the increased use of common platforms and the integration of relevant services of other sectors, including water and sanitation;

(e) Realizing the international commitment to supporting national efforts in strengthening health systems that deliver equitable health outcomes as a basis for a comprehensive approach that includes health financing, the training and retention of the health workforce, procurement and distribution of medicines and vaccines, infrastructure, information systems and service delivery;

(f) Strengthening basic infrastructure, human and technical resources and the provision of health facilities so as to improve health systems and ensure the accessibility, affordability and quality, especially in rural and remote areas, of health-care services, as well as sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, bearing in mind the commitment to halving, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation as a means of fighting waterborne diseases;

²⁰ See *Report of the International Conference on Primary Health Care, Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan, 6-12 September 1978* (Geneva, World Health Organization, 1978).

(g) Stressing the importance of multisectoral and inter-ministerial approaches in formulating and implementing national policies that are crucial for promoting and protecting health, and reiterating that Governments will play the central role, in collaboration with civil society organizations, including academia and the private sector, in implementing national strategies and action plans on social service delivery and in making progress towards ensuring more equitable health outcomes;

(h) Improving national health governance, including through the participation of civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, as well as strengthening international support, as appropriate, in order to ensure that national health systems are sustainable, well prepared and capable of responding to challenges, including crises and pandemics;

(i) Developing appropriate policies and actions to promote health education and literacy, including among young people, in order to address the lack of awareness about health and, in some cases, harmful practices which significantly inhibit women's and children's access to health-care services, and to ensure respect for human rights, promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as essential means of addressing the health of women and girls, and to address the stigmatization of people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS;

(j) Supporting the use of national data collection, monitoring and evaluation systems that can track sex-disaggregated access to health-care services and provide rapid feedback for improving the effectiveness and quality of health systems;

(k) Strengthening the effectiveness of health systems and proven interventions to address evolving health challenges, including the increased incidence of non-communicable diseases, road traffic injuries and fatalities and environmental and occupational health hazards;

(l) Reviewing national recruitment, training and retention policies and developing national health workforce plans, based on lessons learned, that address the lack of health workers as well as their uneven distribution within countries, including in remote and rural areas, and throughout the world, which undermines the health systems of developing countries, in particular the shortage in Africa, and in this regard recognizing the importance of national and international actions to promote universal access to health-care services that take into account the challenges facing developing countries in the retention of skilled health personnel in light of the adoption of the World Health Organization code of practice on the international recruitment of health personnel, adherence to which is voluntary;

(m) Further strengthening international cooperation, inter alia, through exchange of best practices in strengthening health systems, improving access to medicines, encouraging the development of technology and the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, the production of affordable, safe, effective and good quality medicines, fostering the production of innovative medicines, generics, vaccines and other health commodities, the training and retaining of health personnel and work to ensure that international cooperation and assistance, in particular external funding, become more predictable, better harmonized and better aligned with national priorities for capacity-building and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

(n) Further promoting research and development, knowledge-sharing and the provision and use of ICT for health, including through facilitating affordable access by all countries, especially developing countries;

(o) Enhancing public-private partnerships for health-care service delivery, encouraging the development of new and affordable technologies and their innovative application and developing new and affordable vaccines and medicines needed, in particular, in developing countries;

(p) Welcoming the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, undertaken by a broad coalition of partners, in support of national plans and strategies aimed at significantly reducing the number of maternal, newborn and under-five child deaths as a matter of immediate concern by scaling up a priority package of high-impact interventions and integrating efforts in sectors such as health, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, poverty reduction and nutrition;

(q) Welcoming also the various national, regional and international initiatives on all the Millennium Development Goals, including those undertaken bilaterally and through South-South cooperation, in support of national plans and strategies in sectors such as health, education, gender equality, energy, water and sanitation, poverty reduction and nutrition as a way to reduce the number of maternal, newborn and under-five child deaths.

Millennium Development Goal 4 Reduce child mortality

74. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 4, including through:

(a) Scaling up efforts to achieve integrated management of childhood illnesses, particularly actions to address and prevent the main causes of child mortality, including newborn and infant mortality, these being, inter alia, pneumonia, diarrhoea, malaria and malnutrition, which can be achieved by developing, implementing and evaluating appropriate national strategies, policies and programmes for child survival, preventive pre-natal, para-natal and post-natal measures, vaccinations and immunization and by working to ensure that medicines, medical products and technologies are affordable and available. In addition, this can be achieved by improved nutrition, including nutrition prior to birth, as well as by strengthening specific health interventions, including emergency obstetric care and skilled attendance at birth to reduce maternal and child mortality. International support to national efforts, including financial resources, will continue to be key in this regard;

(b) Sustaining and scaling up successful prevention and vaccination programmes as one of the most efficient ways to reduce child mortality, including the measles, polio, tuberculosis and tetanus campaigns, by ensuring sufficient funding, political commitment and conscientious implementation of control activities, especially in priority countries;

(c) Taking action to improve child nutrition through an integrated package of essential interventions and services, including, in particular, access to nutritious food, appropriate supplements, prevention and early management of diarrhoeal

diseases and information and support for exclusive breastfeeding and for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition;

(d) Maintaining progress with regard to combating malaria and the extension of the use of insecticide-treated bed nets;

(e) Stepping up the fight against pneumonia and diarrhoea through the greater use of proven highly effective preventive and treatment measures, as well as new tools, such as new vaccines, which are affordable even in the poorest countries;

(f) Scaling up efforts, including awareness raising, to address the critical impact of increasing access to safe drinking water, sanitation coverage and hygienic care, including hand washing with soap, on reducing the death rate among children as a result of diarrhoeal diseases;

(g) Working to ensure that the next generation is born HIV-free by providing, on an urgent basis, extended and sustainable coverage and improved quality of services to prevent mother-to-child transmission as well as increasing access to paediatric HIV treatment services.

Millennium Development Goal 5

Improve maternal health

75. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 5, including through:

(a) Taking steps to realize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including sexual and reproductive health;

(b) Addressing reproductive, maternal and child health, including newborn health, in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, through the provision of family planning, prenatal care, skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care and methods for the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and infections, such as HIV, within strengthened health systems that provide accessible and affordable integrated health-care services and include community-based preventive and clinical care;

(c) Building on effective, multisectoral and integrated approaches, we emphasize the need for the provision of universal access to reproductive health by 2015, including integrating family planning, sexual health and health-care services in national strategies and programmes;

(d) Taking action at all levels to address the interlinked root causes of maternal mortality and morbidity, such as poverty, malnutrition, harmful practices, lack of accessible and appropriate health-care services, information and education and gender inequality, and paying particular attention to eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls;

(e) Ensuring that all women, men and young people have information about, access to and choice of the widest possible range of safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning;

(f) Expanding the provision of comprehensive obstetric care and strengthening the role of skilled health-care providers, including midwives and

nurses, through their training and retention in order to fully utilize their potential as trusted providers of maternal health-care services, as well as expanding family planning within local communities and expanding and upgrading formal and informal training in sexual and reproductive health care and family planning for all health-care providers, health educators and managers, including training in interpersonal communications and counselling.

Millennium Development Goal 6 Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

76. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 6, including through:

(a) Redoubling efforts to achieve universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support services as an essential step in achieving Millennium Development Goal 6 and as a contribution to reaching the other Millennium Development Goals;

(b) Significantly intensifying prevention efforts and increasing access to treatment by scaling up strategically aligned programmes aimed at reducing the vulnerability of persons more likely to be infected with HIV, combining biomedical, behavioural and social and structural interventions and through the empowerment of women and adolescent girls so as to increase their capacity to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection and the promotion and protection of all human rights. Prevention programmes should take into account local circumstances, ethics and cultural values, including information, education and communication in languages most understood by local communities and should be respectful of cultures, aimed at reducing risk-taking behaviours and encouraging responsible sexual behaviour, including abstinence and fidelity, expanded access to essential commodities, including male and female condoms and sterile injecting equipment, harm-reduction efforts related to drug use, expanded access to voluntary and confidential counselling and testing, safe blood supplies and early and effective treatment of sexually transmitted infections, and should promote policies that ensure effective prevention and accelerate research and development into new tools for prevention, including microbicides and vaccines;

(c) Dealing with HIV/AIDS from a developmental perspective, which requires a national network of sound and workable institutions and multisectoral prevention, treatment, care and support strategies, addressing the stigmatization of and discrimination against people living with HIV and promoting their social integration, rehabilitation and greater involvement in HIV response, as well as strengthening national efforts at HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support and strengthening efforts to eliminate the mother-to-child transmission of HIV;

(d) Building new strategic partnerships to strengthen and leverage the linkages between HIV and other health- and development-related initiatives, expanding, to the greatest extent possible and with the support of international cooperation and partnerships, national capacity to deliver comprehensive HIV/AIDS programmes, as well as new and more effective antiretroviral treatments, in ways that strengthen existing national health and social systems, including using HIV platforms as a foundation for the expansion of service delivery. In this regard, expediting action to integrate HIV information and services into programmes for

primary health care, sexual and reproductive health, including voluntary family planning and mother and child health, treatment for tuberculosis, hepatitis C and sexually transmitted infections and care for children affected, orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, as well as nutrition and formal and informal education;

(e) Planning for long-term sustainability, including addressing the expected increase in demand for second and third line drug regimens to treat HIV, malaria and tuberculosis;

(f) Strengthening support to affected countries in order to respond to HIV co-infection with tuberculosis, as well as multi-drug resistant and extensively drug resistant tuberculosis, including through earlier detection of all forms of tuberculosis;

(g) Sustaining national efforts and programmes, with the support of the international community, to address the challenges posed by malaria by strengthening effective prevention, diagnosis and treatment strategies, including through ensuring the accessibility to and availability of affordable, quality and effective medicines and generics, including artemisinin-combination therapy, as well as progress in the use of long-lasting, safe insecticide-treated bed nets to combat malaria and ongoing research for the prompt development of malaria vaccines;

(h) Renewing efforts to prevent and treat neglected tropical diseases, prevention and treatment services for malaria and tuberculosis, including by improving national health information systems, strengthening international cooperation, accelerating further research and development, developing innovative vaccines and medicines and adopting comprehensive prevention strategies;

(i) Undertaking concerted action and a coordinated response at the national, regional and global levels in order to adequately address the developmental and other challenges posed by non-communicable diseases, namely cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, working towards a successful high-level meeting of the General Assembly in 2011;

(j) Increasing efforts to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support, strengthening the fight against malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases, including through providing adequate funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and through United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other multilateral and bilateral channels, strengthening innovative financing mechanisms, as appropriate, and contributing to the long-term sustainability of the response.

Millennium Development Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability

77. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 7, including through:

(a) Pursuing sustainable development, in accordance with the principles contained in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,²¹ including the

²¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and taking into account the respective capabilities of countries, with a view to effectively implementing the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges;

(b) Pursuing environmental sustainability through nationally owned comprehensive and coherent planning frameworks and the adoption of national legislation, in accordance with national circumstances and the appropriate implementation capacity; supporting developing countries in this regard in building capacity and providing financial resources; and promoting the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable technology and the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms;

(c) Supporting the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,²² through joint action of the international community in addressing the causes and poverty impacts of desertification and land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, consistent with articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Convention, taking into account the ten-year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008-2018), supporting the exchange of best practices and lessons learned, including from regional cooperation, and the mobilization of adequate and predictable financial resources;

(d) Strengthening political commitment and action at all levels to effectively implement the global objectives on forest and the sustainable forest management of all types of forests in order to reduce the loss of forest cover and improve the livelihoods of those that depend on forests through the development of a comprehensive and more effective approach to financing activities,²³ involvement of local and indigenous communities and other relevant stakeholders, promoting good governance at the national and international levels, and enhancing international cooperation to address the threats posed by illicit activities;

(e) Continuing to pursue more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity²⁴ and addressing implementation gaps, where appropriate, including through the fulfilment of commitments significantly reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity, including through preserving and maintaining knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities, and continuing ongoing efforts towards elaborating and negotiating an international regime on access and benefit sharing. We look forward to the successful outcome of the tenth meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held from 18 to 29 October in Nagoya, Japan;

(f) Supporting the implementation of national policies and strategies to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new and renewable energy sources and low emission technologies, the more efficient use of energy, greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and the

²² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

²³ In accordance with the mandate set out in the resolution adopted by the United Nations Forum on Forests, see E/2009/118-E/CN.18/SS/2009/2, chap. I.B, para. 3.

²⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

sustainable use of traditional energy resources, as well as promoting access to modern, reliable, affordable and sustainable energy services and enhancing national capacities to meet the growing energy demand, as appropriate, supported by international cooperation in this field and by the promotion of the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable energy technologies and the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms;

(g) Maintaining that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁷ is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change, calling upon States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the Convention, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and looking forward to a successful and ambitious outcome of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, to be held from 29 November to 10 December 2010 in Cancun, Mexico;

(h) Continuing to increase sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation through prioritizing integrated water and sanitation strategies, which include the restoration, upgrading and maintenance of infrastructure, including water pipelines and sewage networks, as well as promoting integrated water management in national planning and exploring innovative ways of improving the tracking and monitoring of water quality;

(i) Promoting integrated waste management systems, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders and with international financial and technological support, as appropriate;

(j) Redoubling efforts to close the sanitation gap through scaled-up ground-level action, supported by strong political will and increased community participation, in accordance with national development strategies, promoting the mobilization and provision of adequate financial and technological resources, technical know-how and capacity-building for developing countries in order to increase the coverage of basic sanitation, especially for the poor, and noting in this regard the global effort to realize “Sustainable sanitation: the five-year drive to 2015”;

(k) Working towards cities without slums, beyond current targets, through reducing slum populations and improving the lives of slum-dwellers, with adequate support of the international community, by prioritizing national urban planning strategies with the participation of all stakeholders, promoting equal access for people living in slums to public services, including health, education, energy, water and sanitation and adequate shelter, and promoting sustainable urban and rural development;

(l) Taking measures to ensure the sustainable management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including fish stocks, which contribute to food security and hunger and poverty eradication efforts, including through ecosystem approaches to ocean management, and to address the adverse effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity;

(m) Supporting the efforts of countries to preserve fragile mountain ecosystems as an important source of fresh water and as repositories of rich

biological diversity, with a view to achieving sustainable development and eradicating poverty;

(n) Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, in accordance with the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”);⁴

(o) Fostering a greater level of coordination among national and local institutions responsible for economic and social development and environmental protection, including with respect to the promotion of investments relevant for sustainable development;

(p) Working towards a successful United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012.

Millennium Development Goal 8 Develop a Global Partnership for Development

78. We commit ourselves to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 8, including through:

(a) Accelerating efforts to deliver and fully implement existing Millennium Development Goal 8 commitments by enhancing the global partnership for development to ensure the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015;

(b) Supporting the implementation of national development strategies by developing countries to meet the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, including through external financial and technical support, to further promote economic growth and to respond to the increased challenges posed by the impact of the multiple crises, as well as long-term structural obstacles;

(c) Recognizing that the commitments made by developed and developing countries in relation to the Millennium Development Goals require mutual accountability;

(d) Strengthening the central role of the United Nations in enhancing global partnerships for development, with a view to creating a supportive global environment for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals;

(e) Enhancing financing for development in the areas of domestic resource mobilization, foreign direct investment, international trade, international financial and technical cooperation for development, and debt and systemic issues by meeting our commitments made in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development³ and reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development⁵ and all other relevant outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, thus expanding fiscal capacity for financing the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals;

(f) The fulfilment of all ODA commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) for ODA to developing countries by 2015 and to reach the level of at least 0.5 per cent of GNP for ODA by 2010, as well as a target of 0.15

to 0.20 per cent of GNP for ODA to least developed countries. To reach their agreed timetables, donor countries should take all necessary and appropriate measures to raise the rate of aid disbursements to meet their existing commitments. We urge those developed countries that have not yet done so to make additional concrete efforts towards the target of 0.7 per cent of GNP for ODA to developing countries, including the specific target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of GNP for ODA to least developed countries in line with the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,⁸ in accordance with their commitments. To build on progress achieved in ensuring that ODA is used effectively, we stress the importance of democratic governance, improved transparency and accountability, and managing for results. We strongly encourage all donors to establish, as soon as possible, rolling indicative timetables that illustrate how they aim to reach their goals, in accordance with their respective budget allocation process. We stress the importance of mobilizing greater domestic support in developed countries towards the fulfilment of their commitments, including through raising public awareness, and by providing data on aid effectiveness and demonstrating tangible results;

(g) Making rapid progress to fulfil the Gleneagles and other donors' substantial commitments to increase aid through a variety of means. We are concerned that at the current rate the commitment of doubling aid to Africa by 2010 will not be reached;

(h) Exploring new innovative finance mechanisms and strengthening and scaling up existing ones, where appropriate, given their potential to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Such voluntary mechanisms should be effective and should aim to mobilize resources that are stable and predictable, they should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of finance and should be disbursed in accordance with the priorities of developing countries and not unduly burden them. We note the ongoing work in this regard, including by the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development as well as by the Task Force on International Financial Transactions for Development and the Task Force on Innovative Financing for Education;

(i) Enhancing and strengthening domestic resource mobilization and fiscal space, including, where appropriate, through modernized tax systems, more efficient tax collection, broadening the tax base and effectively combating tax evasion and capital flight. While each country is responsible for its tax system, it is important to support national efforts in these areas by strengthening technical assistance and enhancing international cooperation and participation in addressing international tax matters. We look forward to the upcoming report by the Secretary-General examining the strengthening of institutional arrangements to promote international cooperation in tax matters;

(j) Implementing measures to curtail illicit financial flows at all levels, enhancing disclosure practices and promoting transparency in financial information. In this regard, strengthening national and multinational efforts to address this issue is crucial, including support to developing countries and technical assistance to enhance their capacities. Additional measures should be implemented to prevent the transfer abroad of stolen assets and to assist in the recovery and return of such assets, in particular to their countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;¹³

(k) Fully supporting and further developing a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory, equitable and transparent multilateral trading system, *inter alia*, by working expeditiously towards a balanced and ambitious, comprehensive and development-oriented outcome of the Doha Development Agenda²⁵ of multilateral trade negotiations, in order to bring benefits to all and contribute to enhancing the integration of developing countries in the system, while recognizing the importance of making progress in key areas of the Doha Development Agenda of special interest to developing countries, reaffirming the importance of special and differential treatment referred to therein;

(l) Emphasizing the critical importance of rejecting protectionism and not turning inward in times of financial uncertainty, mindful of the importance of trade for economic growth and development and for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015;

(m) Implementing duty-free and quota-free market access for all least developed countries in conformity with the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration adopted by the World Trade Organization in 2005;²⁶

(n) Further implementing aid for trade, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries, to help strengthen and enhance the trade capacity and international competitiveness of developing countries so as to ensure equitable benefits from increased trading opportunities and to foster economic growth;

(o) Strengthening regional integration and trade as it is crucial for significant development benefits, growth and jobs and for generating resources to sustain progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(p) Fulfilling, in the Doha Development Agenda, the 2005 pledge of members of the World Trade Organization to ensure the parallel elimination in agriculture of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect to be completed by the end of 2013;

(q) Assisting developing countries in ensuring long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, while noting also that developing countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help mitigate the adverse impacts of the crisis and stabilize negative macroeconomic developments;

(r) Considering enhanced approaches to sovereign debt restructuring mechanisms based on existing frameworks and principles, the broad participation of creditors and debtors, the comparable treatment of all creditors and an important role for the Bretton Woods institutions, and in this regard welcoming and calling upon all countries to contribute to the ongoing discussion in the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and other forums on the need for, and feasibility of, a more structured framework for international cooperation in this area;

²⁵ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

²⁶ World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(05)/DEC. Available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

(s) Increasing partnerships with businesses to achieve positive development outcomes by mobilizing private sector resources that contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(t) Reaffirming the right to use, to the full, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement),²⁷ the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health,²⁸ the decision of the World Trade Organization's General Council of 30 August 2003 on the implementation of paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health,²⁹ and, when formal acceptance procedures are completed, the amendments to article 31 of the Agreement,³⁰ which provide flexibilities for the protection of public health and, in particular, to promote access to medicines for all and to encourage the provision of assistance to developing countries in this regard. We also call for a broad and timely acceptance of the amendment to article 31 of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, as proposed by the World Trade Organization's General Council in its decision of 6 December 2005;³⁰

(u) Promoting the strategic role of science and technology, including information technology and innovation in areas relevant for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular agricultural productivity, water management and sanitation, energy security and public health. The capacity for technological innovation needs to be greatly enhanced in developing countries, and there is an urgent need for the international community to facilitate the availability of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how by promoting the development and dissemination of appropriate, affordable and sustainable technology, and the transfer of such technologies on mutually agreed terms, in order to strengthen national innovation and research and development capacity;

(v) Strengthening public-private partnerships in order to close the large gaps that remain in access to and affordability of ICT across countries and income groups, including by upgrading the quality and quantity of existing telecommunication infrastructure, particularly in the least developed countries, to support more modern ICT applications and greatly increase connectivity, access and investment in innovation and development and the effective use of innovative ICT applications and e-governance tools; and in this regard encouraging further operationalizing of the voluntary Digital Solidarity Fund;

(w) Strengthening cooperation between originating and receiving countries to lower the transaction costs of remittances, especially promoting conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances, which can contribute to national efforts for development.

²⁷ See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

²⁸ World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(01)/DEC/2. Available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

²⁹ See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/540 and Corr.1. Available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

³⁰ See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/641. Available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

Staying engaged to achieve the Millennium Development Goals

79. We request the General Assembly to continue to review, on an annual basis, the progress made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including in the implementation of the present outcome document. We request the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly to organize a special event in 2013 to follow up on efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

80. We reaffirm the role that the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly have vested in the Economic and Social Council as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development and for the follow-up to the Millennium Development Goals, particularly through the annual ministerial review and the Development Cooperation Forum. We look forward to the upcoming review of the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council during the current session of the Assembly.

81. We request the Secretary-General to report annually on progress in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals until 2015 and to make recommendations in his annual reports, as appropriate, for further steps to advance the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 February 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda items 48 and 114

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 21 December 2009

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/64/L.36)]

64/184. Organization of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/2 of 8 September 2000 and 60/1 of 16 September 2005, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, respectively,

Recalling also its resolution 63/302 of 9 July 2009, by which it decided to convene in 2010, at the commencement of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, a high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly”¹ requested in resolution 63/302,

Convinced that the High-level Plenary Meeting will be a significant opportunity to galvanize commitment, rally support and spur collective action in order to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

1. *Decides* that the High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly shall be held from Monday, 20 September 2010, to Wednesday, 22 September 2010, in New York;

2. *Also decides* to hold the general debate at its sixty-fifth session from Thursday, 23 September 2010, on the understanding that these arrangements shall in no way create a precedent for the general debate at future sessions;

3. *Further decides* that the High-level Plenary Meeting shall focus on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, taking into account the progress made with regard to the internationally agreed development goals, through a comprehensive review of successes, best practices and lessons learned, obstacles and gaps, challenges and opportunities, leading to concrete strategies for action, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report in this regard in March 2010;

¹ A/64/263.



4. *Decides* that the above-mentioned report, together with the *Millennium Development Goals Report 2009*² and the 2009 report of the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force,³ shall serve as an input for the consultations leading to the High-level Plenary Meeting;

5. *Reiterates* that the High-level Plenary Meeting will be held with the participation of Heads of State or Government, and encourages all Member States to be represented at that level;

6. *Decides* that the High-level Plenary Meeting shall be composed of six plenary meetings, on the basis of two meetings a day, and six interactive round-table sessions to be held in concurrence with plenary meetings;

7. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session and the President of the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session to jointly preside over the High-level Plenary Meeting;

8. *Decides* that the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, shall participate in the High-level Plenary Meeting;

9. *Also decides* that the plenary meetings shall be organized in accordance with the modalities set forth in annex I to the present resolution and that the list of speakers for the plenary meetings shall be established in accordance with the procedure set forth in that annex;

10. *Emphasizes* that the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council, in particular during its 2010 substantive session, including the Development Cooperation Forum and the annual ministerial review, could provide a valuable contribution to the preparations for the High-level Plenary Meeting;

11. *Decides* that the six round-table sessions shall be organized in accordance with the modalities set forth in annex II to the present resolution;

12. *Invites* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization, the regional development banks, the regional commissions of the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations and the private sector, to participate in the High-level Plenary Meeting, including in the round tables and in the preparatory process for the Meeting, according to the modalities specified in the annexes to the present resolution, and encourages them to consider initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the Meeting;

13. *Invites* the regional commissions, with the support of the regional development banks and other relevant entities, to hold regional consultations, as appropriate, during the first half of 2010, which will serve to provide inputs to the preparations for the High-level Plenary Meeting as well as the Meeting itself;

14. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union, as part of the preparatory process for the third World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, to develop and submit a contribution to the High-level Plenary Meeting;

² United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.I.12.

³ *Strengthening the Global Partnership for Development in a Time of Crisis* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.I.8).

15. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to organize, in consultation with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, two days of informal interactive hearings no later than June 2010 with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector to provide an input to the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting;

16. *Decides* that the President of the General Assembly shall preside over the informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, and that the hearings shall be organized in accordance with the modalities set forth in annex III to the present resolution, and requests the President of the Assembly to prepare a summary of the hearings, to be issued as an Assembly document prior to the High-level Plenary Meeting;

17. *Encourages* Member States to actively participate in the hearings at the ambassadorial level to facilitate interaction between the Member States and the representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund to enhance the participation in the hearings of representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations from developing countries, and calls upon Member States and others to support the trust fund generously and speedily;

19. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to continue to hold open, inclusive, timely and transparent consultations with all Member States, with a view to reaching the broadest possible agreement on all major issues relating to the High-level Plenary Meeting, including the adoption of a concise and action-oriented outcome to be agreed by Member States;

20. *Strongly urges* all Member States to actively engage in the process of formal and informal consultations leading to the High-level Plenary Meeting with a view to reaching a successful outcome of the Meeting.

*66th plenary meeting
21 December 2009*

Annex I

Organization of the plenary meetings and establishment of the list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly

1. The High-level Plenary Meeting will consist of a total of six meetings, on the basis of two meetings a day, as follows:

Monday, 20 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Tuesday, 21 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, 22 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

2. The podium in the General Assembly Hall will have three seats to accommodate the two Co-Chairs and the Secretary-General.

3. At the opening plenary meeting, on Monday morning, 20 September 2010, the initial speakers will be the two Co-Chairs, the Secretary-General, the head of the delegation of the host country of the Organization, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as the Chair of the United Nations Development Group.

4. The list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting will therefore be established on the basis of six meetings. The morning meeting on Monday, 20 September 2010, following the opening of the Meeting will have 20 speaking slots. The morning meetings on Tuesday, 21 September 2010, and Wednesday, 22 September 2010, will each have 30 speaking slots. The afternoon meetings on Monday, 20 September 2010, and Tuesday, 21 September 2010, will each have 50 speaking slots. The afternoon meeting on Wednesday, 22 September 2010, will have 20 speaking slots, since the last hour will be devoted to the closing of the High-level Plenary Meeting.

5. The list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting will be established initially as follows:

(a) The representative of the Secretary-General will draw one name from a first box containing the names of all Member States that will be represented by Heads of State, Heads of Government, vice-presidents, crown princes/princesses, and of the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, should they be represented by their highest-ranking officials. This procedure will be repeated until all names have been drawn from the box, thus establishing the order in which participants will be invited to choose their meetings and select their speaking slots. The representative of the Secretary-General will then draw from a second box the names of those not contained in the first box in accordance with the same procedure;

(b) Six boxes will be prepared, each one representing a meeting and each one containing numbers corresponding to speaking slots at that meeting;

(c) Once the name of a Member State, the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, or Palestine, in its capacity as observer, has been drawn by the representative of the Secretary-General, that Member State, the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, or Palestine, in its capacity as observer, will be invited first to choose a meeting and then to draw from the appropriate box the number indicating the speaking slot in the meeting.

6. The initial list of speakers for the High-level Plenary Meeting as outlined in paragraph 5 above will be established at a meeting to be scheduled in the month of May 2010.

7. Subsequently, when each category of speakers is organized following the order resulting from the selection process outlined in paragraph 5 above, the list of speakers for each meeting will be rearranged in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly:

(a) Heads of State will thus be accorded first priority, followed by Heads of Government; vice-presidents, crown princes/princesses; the highest-ranking official of the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and of Palestine, in its capacity as observer; ministers; and permanent representatives;

(b) In the event that the level at which a statement is to be made is subsequently changed, the speaker will be moved to the next available speaking slot in the appropriate category at the same meeting;

(c) Participants may arrange to exchange their speaking slots in accordance with the established practice of the General Assembly;

(d) Speakers who are not present when their speaking turn comes will be automatically moved to the next available speaking slot within their category.

8. In order to accommodate all speakers at the High-level Plenary Meeting, statements will be limited to five minutes, on the understanding that this will not preclude the distribution of more extensive texts.

9. Without prejudice to other organizations which have observer status in the General Assembly, a representative of each of the following may also be included in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting:

League of Arab States

African Union

European Union

Organization of the Islamic Conference

World Conference of Speakers of Parliament of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

10. Other than for Member States, the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting will be closed on Monday, 2 August 2010.

11. The arrangements set out above shall in no way create a precedent.

Annex II

Organization of the interactive round-table sessions for the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly

1. The High-level Plenary Meeting will hold six interactive round-table sessions, as follows:

Monday, 20 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 21 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 22 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

2. The six round-table sessions will have at least 50 seats each and will be co-chaired by two Heads of State or Government.

3. The chairs of the six round-table sessions will be from the African States, the Asian States, the Eastern European States, the Latin American and Caribbean States and the Western European and Other States. Those 12 chairs will be selected by their respective regional groups in consultation with the President of the General Assembly.

4. Following the selection of chairs of the round-table sessions, the participation of the members of each group will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis, ensuring that equitable geographical distribution is maintained, allowing for some flexibility. Member States are encouraged to be represented at the round tables at the level of Head of State or Government.

5. The six round-table sessions will have the overarching objective of “Making it happen by 2015”, and each one will focus on one theme, as follows:

Round table 1 — Addressing the challenge of poverty, hunger and gender equality

Round table 2 — Meeting the goals of health and education

Round table 3 — Promoting sustainable development

Round table 4 — Addressing emerging issues and evolving approaches

Round table 5 — Addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable

Round table 6 — Widening and strengthening partnerships

6. Each Head of State or Government or head of delegation attending the round-table sessions may be accompanied by one adviser.

7. The composition of the six round-table sessions will be subject to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. Thus, for each regional group, the distribution of its members for participation in each round-table session will be as follows:

(a) African States: ten Member States;

(b) Asian States: ten Member States;

(c) Eastern European States: five Member States;

(d) Latin American and Caribbean States: seven Member States;

(e) Western European and other States: six Member States;

(f) Other organizations with observer status in the General Assembly: two representatives, in addition to those mentioned in paragraph 9 of annex I to the present resolution;

(g) Entities of the United Nations system: four representatives;

(h) Civil society and non-governmental organizations: four representatives;

(i) Private sector: four representatives.

8. A Member State that is not a member of any of the regional groups may participate in a round-table session to be determined in consultation with the President of the General Assembly. The Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, as well as the organizations listed in paragraph 9 of annex I to the present resolution, may also participate in different round-table sessions to be determined also in consultation with the President of the Assembly.

9. The list of participants in each round-table session will be made available prior to the meeting.

10. The round-table sessions will be closed to the media and the general public. Accredited delegates and observers will be able to follow the proceedings of the round-table sessions via a closed-circuit television in the overflow room.

11. Summaries of the deliberations of the six round-table sessions will be presented orally by the chairs of the round-table sessions or their representatives during the concluding plenary meeting of the High-level Plenary Meeting.

Annex III

Organization of the informal interactive hearings

1. The President of the General Assembly will preside over the informal interactive hearings to be held no later than June 2010. The hearings shall consist of a brief opening plenary meeting followed by four sequential sessions of the hearings on the basis of two sessions a day, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Each session will consist of presentations by invited participants from non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector and an exchange of views with Member States.
2. The hearings will be attended by representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations, the private sector, Member States and observers.
3. The President of the General Assembly will determine the list of invited participants and the exact format and organization of the hearings, in consultation with Member States and representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector.
4. The themes for the hearings will be based on the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General.
5. The President of the General Assembly will consult with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, and with Member States, as appropriate, on the list of representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector that may participate in the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting of September 2010.

Annex IV

Other participants

1. On the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied, to allow participation at the level of Heads of State or Government, the Secretary-General, the head of the delegation of the host country of the Organization, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as the Chair of the United Nations Development Group, will be invited to make a statement in the plenary meeting.
2. The President of the General Assembly will consult with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, and with Member States, as appropriate, on the list of representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector that may participate in the plenary meetings and the round tables of the High-level Plenary Meeting of September 2010.

3. Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, one from each grouping, selected during the informal interactive hearings, may also be included in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting, in consultation with the President of the General Assembly.
4. In addition, interested non-governmental organizations that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and private sector representatives may apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the established accreditation procedure.
5. The arrangements set out above shall in no way create a precedent.



General Assembly

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Arrangements for the High-level Meetings and the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly

United Nations Headquarters, 20-30 September 2010

Information note for delegations



Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	3
A. Arrivals	3
B. Schedules, list of speakers, statements, documentation and interpretation	4
C. List of delegations	9
D. Protocol accreditation and access arrangements for Member States, Observers, intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies	9
E. State luncheon	12
F. Programme for spouses	12
G. Security arrangements	12
H. Dining room, other catering facilities and commercial operations	16
I. Arrangements for bilateral meetings	17
J. 2010 treaty event	18
K. Media arrangements and services	19
L. Medical services	24
M. Host country liaison	24
N. Additional information and briefing sessions	24
O. Focal points for arrangements related to the High-level Meetings	25
Annexes	
I. Request for accreditation of media representatives	27
II. Request for grounds pass	29

Introduction

1. By its decision 64/555 of 15 April 2010, the General Assembly decided that the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the Assembly will be held from Thursday, 23 September, to Saturday, 25 September, and from Monday, 27 September, to Thursday, 30 September 2010, and that the meetings for the general debate on Friday, 24 September, will be held from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

2. The General Assembly, by its resolution 63/302 of 9 July 2009, decided to convene, at the commencement of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, a High-level Plenary Meeting of the Assembly with the participation of Heads of State and Government.

3. By its resolution 64/184 of 21 December 2009, the General Assembly further decided that the High-level Plenary Meeting would be held from 20 to 22 September 2010 in New York. The Assembly also decided to hold the general debate from Thursday, 23 September 2010.

4. By its decision 64/555, the General Assembly also decided that on Wednesday, 22 September, the High-level Plenary Meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. instead of the times indicated in annex I to resolution 64/184.

5. By its resolution 64/199 of 21 December 2009 and decision 64/555, the General Assembly decided to hold the two-day high-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States from Friday, 24 September, to Saturday, 25 September 2010, beginning with an opening plenary meeting on 24 September from 9 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and ending with a closing plenary meeting on 25 September from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

6. By its resolution 64/203 of 21 December 2009 and decision 64/555, the General Assembly decided to hold the high-level meeting on biodiversity as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity on Wednesday, 22 September 2010, consisting of an opening plenary meeting from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., consecutive thematic panels from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., and a closing plenary meeting from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

7. The six plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, the meetings of the general debate and the opening and closing plenary meetings of both the high-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and the high-level meeting as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity will be held in the General Assembly Hall.

A. Arrivals

8. Strict adherence to the following requirements will ensure the timely and secure arrival of all parties:

(a) All persons in motorcades must have valid United Nations photo identification in order to be permitted to pass through various security checks and enter the Headquarters Building;

(b) Heads of State or Government, members of their parties and other delegations or observers or individual members of such delegations wishing to come to the United Nations on foot from nearby locations are encouraged to do so. Time will be saved and possible delays avoided;

(c) With the exception of motorcades accompanied by police and/or secret service, any delegation arriving at the United Nations by car will need a special vehicle permit. These permits will be available through the Garage Administration, room U-210 (telephone 212 963 6212).

B. Schedules, list of speakers, statements, documentation and interpretation

High-level Plenary Meeting

Plenary meetings

9. The meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting will be held according to the following schedule:

Monday, 20 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Tuesday, 21 September 2010, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Wednesday, 22 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

10. The Assembly invited the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session and the President of the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session to preside jointly over the High-level Plenary Meeting.

11. Participants at the High-level Plenary Meeting will include Member States, the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer.

12. At the opening plenary meeting, on Monday morning, 20 September 2010, the initial speakers will be the two Co-Chairs, the Secretary-General, the head of the delegation of the host country of the Organization, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as the Chair of the United Nations Development Group.

13. The list of speakers for the six plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting was established by a drawing of lots. The current list of speakers for the meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting is available in room NL-1033. Any change or addition to the list of speakers should be communicated in writing to the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division (room NL-1033, telephone 212 963 5063; fax 212 963 3783).

14. Without prejudice to other organizations which have observer status in the General Assembly, a representative of each of the following may also be included in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the High-level Plenary Meeting:

League of Arab States

African Union

European Union

Organization of the Islamic Conference

World Conference of Speakers of Parliament of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

15. Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector may also participate in the plenary meetings and round tables of the High-level Plenary Meeting after consultations with the President of the General Assembly in accordance with resolution 64/184.

16. In order to accommodate all speakers at the High-level Plenary Meeting, statements should not exceed five minutes, on the understanding that that will not preclude the distribution of more extensive texts. To facilitate the observance of the time limit, a light system installed on the lectern will signal the approach of the five-minute limit.

17. A minimum of 30 copies of the text of statements to be delivered at the High-level Plenary Meeting should be submitted in advance to the Secretariat; failing this, delegations are urged to provide interpreters with five copies (for interpretation into the five other official languages) before the speaker takes the floor. If delegations wish to have the text of statements distributed to all delegations, observers, specialized agencies, interpreters, record-writers and press officers, 350 copies are required. For distribution of the texts of statements to the press, see the information set out below.

18. Given the security arrangements in place for the High-level Plenary Meeting, texts of statements should be delivered to the receiving area located at the rear of the General Assembly Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. by a delegation representative in possession of a valid United Nations building pass. Access will be through the 46th Street gate to the Visitors Entrance, through the electronic screening area to the elevators on the west side of the Lobby to the receiving area, where a representative of the Secretariat will accept the texts at a special counter. Texts of speeches will be accepted only on the day they are to be given.

19. Only official documents of the High-level Plenary Meeting bearing the General Assembly document symbol and texts of statements to be delivered at plenary meetings will be distributed in the General Assembly Hall.

20. Statements made in any of the six official languages of the General Assembly are interpreted into the other official languages. Any speaker may also make a statement in a language other than the official languages. In such cases, in accordance with rule 53 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, the delegation in question must provide either an interpreter from the non-official into an official language or a written text of the statement in one of the official languages to be read out by a United Nations interpreter. On the basis of this interpretation or the written text which is accepted by the Secretariat as representing the official text of the

statement, it will be interpreted into the other official languages by United Nations interpreters. When a written text is provided, the delegation concerned should make available to the interpreter someone who knows the language in which the statement is to be delivered and the official language into which it has been translated, to guide the interpreter through the translated text and to ensure synchronization between the speaker and the interpreter. Detailed arrangements for interpretation from non-official languages, including access by non-United Nations interpreters to the interpreter booths in the General Assembly Hall, must be made in advance through the Meetings Management Section (telephone 212 963 8114; fax 212 963 7405; e-mail: emeetsm@un.org).

Interactive round-table sessions

21. In accordance with resolution 64/184, the High-level Plenary Meeting will hold six interactive round-table sessions as follows:

Monday, 20 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, 21 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, 22 September 2010, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Chairs of the four round-table sessions will be from the African States, the Asian States, the Eastern European States, the Latin American and Caribbean States, and the Western European and other States. The 12 Chairs will be selected by their respective regional groups in consultation with the President of the General Assembly.

22. The six round-table sessions will have the overarching objective of “Making it happen by 2015”, and each one will focus on one theme, as follows:

Round table 1. Addressing the challenge of poverty, hunger and gender equality

Round table 2. Meeting the goals of health and education

Round table 3. Promoting sustainable development

Round table 4. Addressing emerging issues and evolving approaches

Round table 5. Addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable

Round table 6. Widening and strengthening partnerships

23. The six round tables will be held in Conference Room 4 (North Lawn Building). Member States are encouraged to be represented at the round tables at the level of Head of State or Government. Each Head of State or Government or head of delegation attending the round-table sessions may be accompanied by one adviser.

24. The composition of the six round-table sessions will be subject to the principle of equitable geographical distribution. Thus, for each regional group, the distribution of its members for participation in each round-table session will be as follows:

(a) African States: 10 Member States;

(b) Asian States: 10 Member States;

(c) Eastern European States: 5 Member States;

- (d) Latin American and Caribbean States: 7 Member States;
- (e) Western European and other States: 6 Member States;
- (f) Other organizations with observer status in the General Assembly, in addition to those mentioned in paragraph 9 of annex I to resolution 64/184: 2 representatives;
- (g) Entities of the United Nations system: 4 representatives;
- (h) Civil society and non-governmental organizations: 4 representatives;
- (i) Private sector: 4 representatives.

25. A Member State that is not a member of any of the regional groups may participate in a round-table session to be determined in consultation with the President of the General Assembly. The Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, as well as organizations with observer status in the General Assembly, may also participate in different round-table sessions to be determined also in consultation with the President of the Assembly.

26. The round-table sessions will be closed to media and the general public. Accredited delegates and observers will be able to follow the proceedings of the round-table sessions via a closed-circuit television in Conference Room 3 in the North Lawn Building (the overflow room), by presenting their primary United Nations grounds passes.

High-level meeting as a contribution to the International Year of Biodiversity

27. Beyond what is described in the introduction above, further details have yet to be decided, including through the background paper to be prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 64/203, and will be included in an addendum to the present note when finalized.

General debate

28. As indicated in the introduction above, the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the Assembly will be held from Thursday, 23 September, to Saturday, 25 September, and from Monday, 27 September, to Thursday, 30 September 2010. The meetings for the general debate on Friday, 24 September, will be held from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

29. The current list of speakers is available in room NL-1033. Any change or exchange of speaking slots among Member States should be communicated in writing to the General Assembly Affairs Branch (room NL-1033, telephone 212 963 5063; fax 212 963 3783).

30. In keeping with previous practice, a voluntary 15-minute time limit for statements is to be observed in the general debate of the sixty-fifth session.

Statements, documentation and interpretation

31. A minimum of 30 copies of the text of statements to be delivered at the general debate should be submitted in advance to the Secretariat; failing this, delegations are urged to provide six copies for the interpreters before the speaker takes the floor. If delegations wish to have the text of statements distributed to all delegations, observers, specialized agencies, interpreters, record-writers and press officers, 350 copies are required. For distribution of the texts of statements to the press, see section K below.

32. Given the security arrangements in place for the general debate, texts of statements should be delivered to the receiving area located at the rear of the General Assembly Hall between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. by a delegation representative in possession of a valid United Nations grounds pass. Access will be through the 46th Street gate to the Visitors Entrance, through the electronic screening area to the elevators on the west side of the Lobby to the receiving area, where a representative of the Secretariat will accept the texts at a special counter. Texts of speeches will be accepted only on the day they are to be given.

33. Only texts of statements to be delivered in the general debate will be distributed in the General Assembly Hall.

34. Statements made in any of the six official languages of the General Assembly are interpreted into the other official languages. Any speaker may also make a statement in a language other than the official languages. In such cases, in accordance with rule 53 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, the delegation in question must provide either an interpreter from the non-official into an official language or a written text of the statement in one of the official languages to be read out by a United Nations interpreter. On the basis of this interpretation or the written text which is accepted by the Secretariat as representing the official text of the statement, it will be interpreted into the other official languages by United Nations interpreters. When a written text is provided, the delegation concerned should make available to the interpreter someone who knows the language in which the statement is to be delivered and the official language into which it has been translated, to guide the interpreter through the translated text and to ensure synchronization between the speaker and the interpreter. Detailed arrangements for interpretation from non-official languages, including access by non-United Nations interpreters to the interpreter booths in the General Assembly Hall, must be made in advance through the Meetings Management Section (telephone 212 963 8114; fax 212 963 7405; e-mail: emeetsm@un.org).

High-level review to assess progress made in addressing the vulnerabilities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

35. In its decision 64/561 of 9 July 2010, the General Assembly requested the President of the General Assembly to conduct further consultations with Member States with a view to resolving the pending procedural aspects of the high-level review. Beyond what is described in the introduction above, therefore, further

details have yet to be decided by the General Assembly, and will be included in an addendum to the present note when finalized.

C. List of delegations

36. A provisional list of delegations to the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly will be available on the Protocol and Liaison Service website (www.un.int/protocol) at the beginning of the general debate. Missions are requested kindly to submit a comprehensive official list of delegation, including functional titles and affiliations of each member, to the Chief of Protocol, room NL-2058 (fax 212 963 1921) as soon as possible. In order to avoid confusion, any changes to the original list should be sent separately, bearing in mind that such changes should not be incorporated into the list previously submitted to the Protocol and Liaison Service. Missions are encouraged to transmit, in MS Word, their comprehensive lists of delegations first electronically to sutliff@un.org, followed by a signed copy to be delivered to the Protocol and Liaison Service. A final comprehensive list of delegations to the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly will be issued towards the end of December 2010.

37. Each delegation shall consist of not more than five representatives, and five alternate representatives, and as many advisers and experts as may be required (rule 25 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly). With the exception of Head of State or Government and Vice-President, Crown Prince or Princess and Minister for Foreign Affairs who would be listed as head of delegation during his/her presence at the session, all other heads of delegation shall be counted as one of the five representatives. If the five representatives and five alternate representatives are not specified, as required by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the first 10 members of the delegation in the order of their listing will then be considered as representatives and alternate representatives, for the purpose of issuing the lists of delegations. The names of aides de camp, interpreters, physicians, media and security personnel accompanying a Head of State or Government should not be included in the official list of delegation.

D. Protocol accreditation and access arrangements for Member States, Observers, intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies

Accreditation

38. Accreditation of official delegations and members of the parties of Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents and Crown Princes or Princesses will be carried out by the Protocol and Liaison Service. Missions are requested kindly to communicate the names, functional titles and affiliations of all the members of the respective delegations who require passes, together with the SG.6¹ form "Registration of members of delegations to temporary meetings", duly filled out, to the Chief of Protocol, room NL-2058 (fax 212 963 1921). Accreditation of official delegations of observer missions, intergovernmental organizations and specialized

¹ SG.6 forms may be downloaded from the following website: <http://missions.un.int/protocol>.

agencies will similarly be carried out by the Protocol and Liaison Service, following the same procedure.

39. Once the delegation lists together with the SG.6 forms are received at the Protocol and Liaison Service, they will be reviewed and authorized. To ensure the issuance of United Nations grounds passes in a timely manner, the following measures will be applied:

(a) Applications received in the office of the Protocol and Liaison Service **before the close of business on Friday, 3 September 2010**, will be available for collection starting on Tuesday, 7 September 2010;

(b) Applications received in the office of the Protocol and Liaison Service **after the close of business on Friday, 3 September 2010**, will be available for collection at least 48 hours (two working days) after submission.

Representatives of permanent or observer missions, intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies are requested to collect and deliver the authorized applications to the delegates who will proceed to the Pass and Identification Unit for processing. If the name and the photograph of a delegate are already in the computer system of the Pass and Identification Unit, his/her pass may be collected by a representative of the permanent or observer mission in the absence of the delegate, upon presentation of the authorized SG.6 form and a valid United Nations grounds pass. Otherwise, delegates who are in need of a photo identification are required to come with their SG.6 forms to the Pass and Identification Unit located on 1st Avenue at 45th Street.

40. Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents, Crown Princes or Princesses, and their spouses will be offered VIP passes without photographs. Deputy Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers and their spouses will be provided with VIP passes with photographs. In order for a VIP pass to be issued, a written request and two colour passport-size photographs should be submitted in advance to the Protocol and Liaison Service.

41. Delegations may e-mail digital photographs for VIP passes to chuaw@un.org, following submission of formal requests to the office of the Protocol and Liaison Service, room NL-2058 (fax 212 963 1921). Colour photographs must be in jpg format. **All e-mail requests must contain in the subject line only the name of Member States or Observers and no other information.** Only the names of the VIPs and their photographs should be attached. Requests other than VIP passes will not be entertained via e-mail.

42. A separate list specifying the names and functional titles of the members of the party of the Head of State or Government (aides de camp, interpreters, physicians, etc.), who require access to the United Nations must be submitted together with the SG.6 forms to the Protocol and Liaison Service. Passes for members of security details accompanying VIPs will be issued by the Headquarters Security and Safety Service (telephone 212 963 7531/2). Passes for media personnel will be handled by the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit (telephone 212 963 6934).

43. Working hours of the accreditation unit (telephone 212 963 7181) in the Protocol and Liaison Service in the days prior to and during the high-level meetings and general debate will be posted at the Protocol and Liaison Service website

(www.un.int/protocol) and at the entry of the Protocol office starting on Tuesday, 7 September 2010.

Access to meeting rooms and restricted areas

44. During the high-level meetings and the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly from 20 to 30 September 2010, access to the General Assembly Hall and restricted areas will be based on a regular delegate's pass plus a secondary colour-coded access card. These access cards are transferable strictly among members of a delegation. For that purpose, the Protocol and Liaison Service will proceed as follows:

(a) Every Permanent Mission will be issued six cards of one colour for access to the General Assembly Hall and four cards of a different colour for access to the 2nd floor of the General Assembly Building. These cards will be valid for the entire period of the high-level meetings and the general debate of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly from 20 to 30 September 2010;

(b) Each intergovernmental organization will be issued two colour-coded access cards and each specialized agency will be issued one colour-coded access card for access to the General Assembly Hall; in addition, each intergovernmental organization and specialized agency will receive two cards of a different colour for access to the 2nd floor of the General Assembly Building;

(c) Access cards will be issued to representatives of Member States, Observers, intergovernmental organizations and specialized agencies participating in the round tables of the High-level Plenary Meeting for access to conference rooms in the North Lawn Building.

45. Colour-coded access cards for the high-level meetings and the general debate will be ready for collection at the Protocol and Liaison Service (room NL-2063) starting on Thursday, 16 September 2010, after 10 a.m.

46. Seats will be reserved in a VIP area for spouses of the Heads of State or Government, Vice-Presidents, Crown Princes or Princesses and Cabinet Ministers participating in the general debate, provided that the Chief of Protocol is notified in advance of their attendance at the session. In addition, depending on availability, a limited number of seats will be reserved for guests of delegations in VIP section A (up to 15 seats), the 3rd floor gallery and the 4th floor balcony of the General Assembly Hall. The seats in VIP section A will be allocated only for the duration of the address of the head of delegation at the plenary meeting. Access to these areas at the General Assembly Hall will require a special courtesy ticket distributed by the Protocol and Liaison Service. To reserve seats in the VIP area and tickets for the gallery and balcony in the General Assembly Hall, a written request specifying the names and titles of all attendees (including the spouse of the dignitary speaking), must be delivered to the Chief of Protocol in room NL-2058 or faxed to 212 963 1921 at least one week in advance of the address. The special courtesy tickets will be available for collection one day prior to the address of the head of delegation. Ticket holders to these areas who are not in possession of a United Nations grounds pass must be escorted by a representative of the mission bearing a valid United Nations grounds pass and enter the United Nations via the Visitors Entrance.

47. All documents, forms and information material on the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly issued by the Protocol and Liaison Service may be accessed at the Protocol and Liaison Service website at www.un.int/protocol.

E. State luncheon

48. On Thursday, 23 September 2010, the day of the opening of the general debate, the Secretary-General will host a luncheon (without spouses) in honour of Heads of State and Government, Vice-Presidents and Crown Princes or Princesses participating in the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. Heads of delegations at a level other than Head of State or Government will also be invited. The luncheon will be held at 1.15 p.m. in the Visitors Lobby of the General Assembly Building.

F. Programme for spouses

49. On Thursday, 23 September 2010, at 4 p.m., Mrs. Ban will host, at the residence of the Secretary-General, a tea reception in honour of the spouses of Heads of State and Government, Vice-Presidents and Crown Princes or Princesses participating in the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. Spouses of Cabinet Ministers are also invited to attend this event. Spouses may be accompanied by a guest of their choice.

50. It is essential for the Chief of Protocol to be notified, at the earliest convenience of the Permanent Representatives and Observers, of the presence of spouses of Heads of State or Government in New York in order to expedite all the necessary arrangements.

G. Security arrangements

General considerations

51. The Headquarters complex will be closed to the public from 4 p.m. on Sunday, 19 September 2010, until the close of business on Thursday, 30 September 2010. Access to the United Nations complex during the high-level meetings will be restricted to delegates and their staff; staff members of the United Nations Secretariat, funds and programmes and agencies; accredited media; and affiliates who are wearing a United Nations grounds pass.

52. For all government delegations (Member States or Observers), grounds passes will be issued at the Pass and Identification Unit (1st Avenue at 45th Street). For grounds passes regarding national security officers accompanying the Head of State or Government, contact Captain William Ball, Security and Safety Service (telephone 212 963 7531). See annex II for a sample of request for a grounds pass for security staff.

53. Any questions should be directed to the Chief of the Headquarters Security and Safety Service, Mr. David J. Bonggi, by contacting the Security Event Planning Unit, Captain Mark Hoffman (telephone 212 963 7028), or to the Inspector in charge of Operations, Mr. Donald Calderone (telephone 212 963 4013).

54. It must be emphasized that access to the United Nations will be denied to anyone who is not in the above-listed categories and who is not wearing a valid grounds pass. To avoid last-minute difficulties, all Governments are requested to ensure the proper accreditation of their delegations.

Access to the United Nations Headquarters complex

55. The opening times of the pedestrian entrances are as follows:

42nd Street and 1st Avenue: 7 a.m.

46th Street and 1st Avenue: 6 a.m.

47th Street and 1st Avenue: 7 a.m.

56. All packages brought into the premises by all categories of persons, including delegates and staff, will be subject to security inspection.

57. Prior arrangements are required for press and affiliates during after hours access to the premises through notification to the Security Control Centre at extension 3-6666.

58. Owing to the fact that the 42nd Street and 1st Avenue entrance will not be open until 7 a.m., access to the South Annex and the Library Building prior to 7 a.m. will be gained by using the 46th Street Visitors Entrance then proceeding to the screening tent. Following the screening process, pedestrians will continue to the north garden promenade and proceed to the South Annex by the way of the East River walkway.

Access through the Delegates Entrance

59. During the sixty-fifth session, the pedestrian gate at 45th Street and 1st Avenue will be closed to pedestrians. Therefore, the entrance at the south side of 46th Street and 1st Avenue will be reserved for the use of high-level VIPs, delegations bearing Protocol access cards and senior United Nations staff bearing gold-coloured building passes to access the Delegates Entrance.

Access through the 47th Street and 1st Avenue entrance, North Lawn Building

60. During the sixty-fifth session, the pedestrian gate at 47th Street and 1st Avenue will be used by Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and senior United Nations staff bearing gold-coloured building passes.

61. All delegates, staff, affiliates and representatives of non-governmental organizations who wish to enter the North Lawn Building are required to use the 46th Street Visitors Entrance, which will open at 6 a.m.

Security and Safety Service, pass and identification offices — UNITAR Building and public plaza

62. In preparation for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Pass and Identification Unit, located in room U-100, UNITAR Building, on 1st Avenue at 45th Street, will be open to staff members and members of delegations. Representatives of non-governmental organizations and members of the media will be assisted with accreditation at the screening and accreditation centre in a tent

located on the public plaza. The days and hours of operation of these two pass and identification facilities will be as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Hours of operation</i>
Saturday and Sunday, 11 and 12 September	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday, 13 September	9 am to 6 p.m.
Tuesday, 14 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 15 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday, 16 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday, 17 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, 18 September	10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday, 19 September	12 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Monday, 20 September	6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday, 21 September	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday, 22 September	7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday, 23 September	6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday, 24 September	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday, 25 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, 26 September	Closed
Monday, 27 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday, 28 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday, 29 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday, 30 September	Normal operations at the main office of the Pass and Identification Unit
Friday, 1 October	9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, 2 October	Closed
Sunday, 3 October	Closed

As from Thursday, 30 September 2010, all pass and identification operations will return to the Pass and Identification Unit, room U-100, UNITAR Building, on 1st Avenue at 45th Street. The hours of operation will be from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Monday to Friday, until the last day of the main part of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, when the hours of operation will revert to 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Access for members of the information media

63. Members of the media (both resident correspondents with equipment and non-resident correspondents with or without equipment) who wish to enter the General Assembly Building and the North Lawn Building must use the 46th Street media entrance with a grounds pass or proper documentation for accreditation. Access to the media tent will be gained by using the ramp for disabled persons on the left side of the Visitors Entrance. Following the screening process, those personnel who need media accreditation are required to proceed to the media accreditation tent. Those media personnel who wish to proceed to the 3rd floor media liaison desk in the General Assembly Building will be required to use the ramp located on the east side of the General Assembly Building and the staircase within the neck area to the 3rd floor. Those media personnel who wish to proceed to the Media Centre (Conference Room 1, North Lawn Building), following the screening process will proceed from the tent area through the plaza and use the metal staircase down to the ground floor and through the south side doors to the back entrance of Conference Room 1. Video crews accompanying resident and non-resident correspondents, as well as all types of temporary correspondents, will use only the 46th Street entrance, where they and their equipment will be subject to security screening.

64. Members of the media have to be escorted by the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit at all times in the restricted areas as well as in the North Lawn Building.

Access to restricted areas

65. In accordance with established procedures, the 2nd floor of the General Assembly Building is reserved for members of delegations and staff conducting official business. In all cases, valid United Nations building passes will be required. Members of non-governmental organizations will have no access to the restricted areas, and their access to meetings at Headquarters will be honoured upon verification of valid United Nations building passes and appropriate tickets issued for the day's meetings.

Admission of non-United Nations persons

66. For the period of the general debate and the high-level meetings, the information and reception desk in the General Assembly Building lobby will be relocated to the UNITAR Building, on 1st Avenue at 45th Street, 45th Street entrance. It will be the responsibility of each staff member to meet his or her guests at the information desk and to accompany them at all times. No guests will be permitted to enter restricted areas.

Guided tours

67. Regular guided tours will be suspended from 4 p.m. on Sunday, 19 September, until the close of business on Thursday, 30 September. On Friday, 1 October, at 9 a.m., guided tours will resume and the building will reopen to the public.

Motorcade drop-off

68. Escorted motorcades will be able to enter the United Nations premises at the 43rd Street and 1st Avenue vehicular entrance and drop off their passengers at the Delegates Entrance then exit through the 45th Street and 1st Avenue gate. All escorted motorcades will be coordinated by the host country and the Headquarters Security and Safety Service.

69. Unescorted vehicles will be allowed to drop off passengers at the 46th Street and 1st Avenue checkpoint upon the presentation of a valid grounds pass as well as an authorized United Nations decal.

Parking

70. Vehicles other than those belonging to the heads of delegation of the permanent or observer missions to the United Nations will be required to enter the garage via the 48th Street entrance and leave only through the 42nd Street exit from Monday to Friday. The 48th Street and 42nd Street entrances will be operational 24 hours. Traffic lanes on the service road and roadways in the garage must be kept free of stationary vehicles at all times.

71. All vehicles entering the garage will be subject to search. It is highly recommended to limit the contents inside the vehicles in order to expedite security clearance.

H. Dining room, other catering facilities and commercial operations

72. The hours of normal operation for the Delegates Dining Room are 11.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. From Monday, 20 September, until Friday, 1 October 2010, reservations for private dinners or receptions will be accepted only from permanent and observer missions and from United Nations bodies. It should also be noted that during the period from Monday, 20 September, until Friday, 1 October 2010, no guest(s) will be allowed entry to the United Nations premises for any function without proper accreditation. Additionally, owing to the integration of the Delegates Dining Room within the main Cafeteria area (1st floor, South Annex), from 20 September to 1 October 2010 events involving high-level dignitaries may necessitate the implementation of security measures resulting in periodic closures of the Cafeteria and the surrounding areas during the movements of the VIPs.

73. The hours of operation of the various facilities during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly will be as follows:

Main Cafeteria (South Annex, 1st floor)

Monday-Friday 7.15 a.m.-8 p.m.

Vendery (General Assembly Building, 3rd floor)

Seven days a week

Delegates Lounge (North Lawn Building, 2nd floor)

Monday-Friday 4 p.m.-8 p.m.

Monday-Friday (bar) 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Delegates Dining Room (South Annex, 1st floor)

Monday-Friday 11.30 a.m.-2.30 p.m.

Café Austria (North Lawn Building, 2nd floor)

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

DC-1 Cafeteria (3rd floor)

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

UNICEF Cafeteria (UNICEF House, 1st floor)

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4.30 p.m.

Visitors Coffee Shop (General Assembly Building, 1st basement)

Periodical 8.45 a.m.-4.45 p.m.

Gift shop (General Assembly Building, 1st basement)

Seven days a week 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m.

United Nations Postal Administration stamp counter (General Assembly Building, 1st basement)

Seven days a week 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m.

Bookshop (General Assembly Building, 1st basement)

Seven days a week 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m.

I. Arrangements for bilateral meetings**Facilities**

74. For bilateral meetings, a limited number of temporary booths, with a maximum capacity of eight participants, will be available in the new North Lawn Building and on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th floor balconies of the General Assembly Building. A communication with specific details will be sent to all permanent and observer missions by 15 August 2010.

Reservation system

75. An electronic reservation system will be instituted through e-Meets (emeets.un.org) by 31 August 2010 in order to provide equitable and efficient use of the facilities. This electronic request should specify the date and time and the name of the other delegation participating in the bilateral meeting.

76. An electronic receipt for each request will be sent after its submission. Information on actual room assignments will be provided one day prior to the meeting. Depending on the programme, every effort will be made to keep a delegation's consecutive appointments in the same room. Late requests will be accepted until 6 p.m. the day prior to the meeting and every effort will be made to assign a booth based on availability of space at that time.

J. 2010 treaty event

77. It is recalled that the Secretary-General, in a letter dated 12 April 2010, invited Heads of State or Government to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to multilateral treaties deposited with him during the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly. He offered to provide special facilities, including media coverage, for that purpose.

78. The treaty event will be held from 21 to 23 and on 27 and 28 September 2010 in the area near the Delegates Entrance on the ground floor of the General Assembly Building, immediately to the right of the escalators in the main hall (Kuwaiti boat area). Appointments for signature, ratification or accession should be arranged well in advance with the Treaty Section (telephone 212 963 5047). Those countries intending to ratify and/or accede to a convention or treaty must submit copies of their instruments to the Treaty Section for review by 3 September 2010. Those countries intending to sign a convention or treaty must submit copies of their full powers to the Treaty Section for review by 3 September 2010. It is noted that Heads of State or Government and Ministers for Foreign Affairs do not require full powers to sign. Copies of instruments and full powers may be faxed to the Treaty Section at 212 963 3693.

79. Information relating to the treaty event, including the letter of invitation from the Secretary-General, the annual publication on treaties entitled *Towards Universal Participation and Implementation*, a list of all multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and procedural information can be obtained from the United Nations Treaty Collection website at <http://treaties.un.org>.

80. In addition to the Head of State or Government or Foreign Minister, two individuals per delegation will be permitted at the event. It is noted that it is the responsibility of the delegation to escort the representative who will be undertaking the relevant treaty action to the venue five minutes prior to the scheduled appointment. A Protocol Officer will greet and escort dignitaries (Head of State or Government/Vice-President/Crown Prince or Princess) from the escalators in the main hall.

81. It is further noted that, in order to have access to the premises during the 2010 treaty event, national media must have previously obtained proper media accreditation from the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit.

82. Each delegation should designate an individual as a contact person for the purposes of this event.

K. Media arrangements and services

83. Media representatives with a valid United Nations grounds pass will be allowed to cover the High-level Plenary Meeting without additional accreditation. All others who do not have a valid pass must apply for accreditation by Thursday, 9 September 2010, by submitting a signed letter of assignment from the Bureau Chief or Editor-in-Chief addressed to the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit and faxed to 212 963 4642. They must also fill out an online media registration form, which is available at www.un.org/media/accreditation/form. Two pieces of photo identification (such as passport, driver's licence or state identification) are also required when the press representative picks up his/her pass. Other credentials, such as bylined articles, may be requested. For additional information, see annex I.

84. Criteria for media accreditation, media access to the United Nations, and liaison services for coverage of open and bilateral meetings, press conferences and briefings are available at www.un.org/media/accreditation.

85. All members of the media accompanying Heads of State or Government or heads of delegation must submit a letter of assignment from their Bureau Chief or Editor-in-Chief, attached to an official letter from the permanent mission concerned, listing the names of the media representatives with their functional titles and affiliation, addressed to Isabelle Broyer, Chief, Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit, Department of Public Information, United Nations (fax 212 963 4642).

86. Members of the media accompanying Heads of State or Government or heads of delegation must present themselves to the media accreditation office, where they will have their photographs taken and be issued a United Nations grounds pass upon presentation of national passports and valid photo identification.

Location and work hours of the media accreditation office

87. The media accreditation office is situated in room 100 of the UNITAR Building (1st Avenue at 45th Street).

88. From 11 to 29 September 2010, the media accreditation office will be located in a tent on the public plaza, just outside the Visitors Lobby.

89. The hours for media accreditation will be as follows:

Saturday and Sunday, 11 and 12 September	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday, 13 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday, 14 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 15 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday, 16 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday, 17 September	9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, 18 September	10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sunday, 19 September	12 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Monday, 20 September	6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, 21 September	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesday, 22 September	7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday, 23 September	6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Friday, 24 September	7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday, 25 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, 26 September	Closed
Monday, 27 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday, 28 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wednesday, 29 September	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

90. For security reasons, all media representatives will be required to wear both their United Nations grounds pass and national press identification at all times.

91. As from Thursday, 30 September 2010, all pass and identification operations will resume at the Main Pass and Identification Unit, on 1st Avenue at 45th Street, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Entry and screening procedures

92. All media representatives will be required to present a valid United Nations grounds pass to the United Nations security officers at the gate. The designated press entrance is at 47th Street and 1st Avenue.

93. Media are advised to arrive early to allow sufficient time for screening. Last-minute arrivals will encounter delays and may be further delayed, should 1st Avenue be closed for motorcades.

Media Centre and other facilities

94. The United Nations will establish a Media Centre for local and visiting media in Conference Room 1 in the North Lawn Building, which will provide the following technical services:

- Video projection showing quad split screen of the four United Nations Television programme outputs in the centre of the room.
- Audio distribution of United Nations Television programmes over room sound system for listening.
- Video and audio distribution for external recording.
- Wi-fi Internet service.
- Distribution of documents, statements and press releases.

95. The Ex-Press Bar, on the 3rd floor of the General Assembly Building, will serve as an overflow area for the media, in particular for the official photographers and cameramen waiting to enter the booth, which will be assigned to them on a

rotational basis. These locations will also be equipped with electrical outlets and a television monitor showing the proceedings in the General Assembly Hall.

96. An information desk will be staffed in the Media Centre to assist. For queries, call the Media Centre at 212 963 2156.

United Nations audio-visual materials

97. Photographs in digital format (jpg) will be available for download free of charge on the United Nations photo website (<http://www.un.org/av/photo>). Photographs of morning statements will be available during the afternoon of the same day, and photographs of the afternoon statements on the morning of the following day. Photo enquiries and requests should be addressed to the United Nations Photo Library, room IN-506A (telephone 212 963 6927, 212 963 0034; fax 212 963 1658, 212 963 3430; e-mail: photolibr@un.org).

98. Delegations may request one NTSC DVD of each statement free of charge. Additional copies, NTSC DVD and NTSC Betacam SP, back orders and other special requests are subject to charge. Advance tape orders will generally be available on the day of the statement. Tapes ordered afterwards will be available as soon as possible, usually within one or two days. To request a videotape of a statement, contact: United Nations Video Library (telephone 212 963 1561, 212 963 0656; fax 212 963 4501; e-mail: gonzalezm@un.org, teza@un.org and fong@un.org). Requests should be directed to all to ensure prompt attention.

99. B-roll video material on Betacam NTSC is available on selected topics, such as historical footage of the first 60 years of the United Nations, the Millennium Development Goals and other themes.

100. Live television feeds will be available through commercial carriers. For information, contact United Nations Television (telephone 212 963 7650; fax 212 963 3860).

101. Only pool television production services will be available from United Nations Television. Broadcasters interested in accessing United Nations Television's live coverage of the High-level Plenary Meeting and the general debate should contact James Ludlam at 212 963 7650. Those wishing to book a television studio should call 212 963 7653 or 212 963 7650. A detailed schedule of live and hand-held camera coverage will be e-mailed to broadcast clients in advance of the High-level Plenary Meeting.

102. Audio files of speeches in digital format (mp3) will be available for download free of charge on the United Nations Audio Library website (<http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/library/>). Audio enquiries and requests should be addressed to the United Nations Audio Library (telephone 212 963 9513, 212 963 9272, 212 963 9269).

103. Statements are normally available in the original language in which they were delivered. Special requests for a recording of the interpretation in one of the six official languages should be made in advance and are subject to the limitations of recording facilities.

104. Back orders and other special requests are subject to charge and are handled by the Sound Recording Unit, room GA-13 C (telephone 212 963 7658).

105. Limited radio studio facilities will be provided to delegates and accredited journalists, when available. For radio studio availability, contact United Nations Radio by e-mail (chia-rubin@un.org, martinich@un.org and marchione-novoa@un.org). Requests should be directed to all three to ensure prompt attention.

Internet

106. The United Nations website through a dedicated portal web page (<http://www.un.org/ga>) will provide coverage of the General Assembly meetings, conferences, press briefings and events in the six official languages, including background information, press releases, news stories, documents, photographs and access to radio programmes, webcast videos and statements. To ensure timely posting of the statements on the United Nations website, the texts should be sent to dpigaweb@un.org. The dedicated website for the High-level Plenary Meeting is www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010.

107. The United Nations News Centre, at www.un.org/news, will serve as a main portal for United Nations news, and will be continuously updated. It will provide a wide array of links to related source materials, including press releases, selected reports and statements of the Secretary-General and the Co-Chairs of the High-level Plenary Meeting, statements by the President of the General Assembly, and other documents on major issues. On the News Centre, visitors can also subscribe to a free e-mail news alert service that will bring stories on the latest United Nations developments straight to their mailboxes or desktops.

108. The United Nations Webcast service (www.un.org/webcast) will provide daily live and on-demand broadcasting over the Internet of the General Assembly open meetings, press conferences and briefings and events. The meetings will be covered live in English and the original language of the speaker (floor). The archived webcast video will be made available on the Webcast website as well as on the General Assembly Website, together with the text of statements. In order to facilitate timely availability of statements on the website, delegations should send them via e-mail to dpigaweb@un.org. Queries about webcast and on-demand videos should be directed to the United Nations Webcast (telephone 212 963 6733). Queries about the availability of statements on the General Assembly website should be directed to the United Nations Web Services Section (telephone 212 963 5148).

Pool coverage

109. Nearly all visual media coverage will be done by selected media pools because of logistics and space considerations. The pools are reserved exclusively for United Nations Television, United Nations photographers, international wire services and photographic agencies. In the case of print media, the United Nations Correspondents Association will notify the Department of Public Information of its representative.

110. The official representatives of the media accompanying a Head of State or Government or head of delegation, including the official photographer, will not be permitted to participate in these pools. Media representatives accompanying Heads of State or Government will be able to cover the activities of their delegation, if approved by their delegations.

111. Official photographers and television crews will have an opportunity to cover the statement of their Head of State or Government or head of delegation on a rotating basis from the press booths surrounding the General Assembly Hall. Owing to space limitations, they may not remain in the booth to cover other speeches. A limited number of still photographers, escorted by media liaison staff, will also be allowed to take photographs from the bridge at the back of the General Assembly Hall during statements. These operations will be coordinated by the liaison officers accompanying the media.

Tickets to the press gallery in the General Assembly Hall

112. There are a limited number of tickets available for the press gallery of the General Assembly Hall. The media liaison desk on the 3rd floor will distribute tickets on a first-come first-served basis 30 minutes before the meeting.

Copies of statements for the press

113. Delegations wishing to make available the text of the statement of their Head of State or Government or head of delegation are asked to bring 150 copies to the Media Centre in Conference Room 1 (North Lawn Building), and an additional 150 copies to the media documents centre in the 3rd floor press area. No photocopying facilities will be available for this purpose. The texts of statements will be available at <http://www.un.org/ga>.

United Nations press release coverage

114. The Department of Public Information will provide press release coverage in English and French of open meetings. Press releases may be obtained from the media documents centre in the South Annex (room SA-1B12), and on the Internet at www.un.org/news. Queries should be directed to the Press Service (telephone 212 963 7211 (English) or 212 963 7191 (French)).

Background material and other queries

115. For background and press materials on the High-level Plenary Meeting, see www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010. The site also provides relevant documents, news and information, the overall programme, and a calendar of partnership events.

116. For additional information and interview requests, contact the Strategic Communications Division, Department of Public Information (telephone 212 963 6870 or 212 963 6816; e-mail: mediainfo@un.org).

Briefings and press conferences

117. Daily briefings for the media will be held at noon, as appropriate, by the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General and the Spokesperson for the Co-Chairs of the High-level Plenary Meeting and the Spokesperson of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium. Press conferences by senior United Nations officials, delegations and permanent missions will be held in the same room unless otherwise indicated. The list of press conferences will be announced daily by the Office of the Spokesperson of the Secretary-General and will be posted at www.un.org/news/oss/oss/conf.htm. It will also be available on the website of the Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit at

www.un.org/media/ accreditation. Delegations can book press conferences by calling the Office of the Spokesperson (telephone 212 963 7707, 212 963 7160 or 212 963 7161).

Coverage of bilateral meetings

118. Opportunities for photographs will be available for bilateral meetings that are open for coverage, when designated as such by the press attachés of the respective Member States. Media representatives covering those meetings will be informed of such opportunities by the appropriate mission press attachés. It will be the responsibility of the press attachés to inform the media liaison desk of such opportunities and the media will then be escorted by a liaison officer. The media liaison desk is situated on the 3rd floor behind the General Assembly Hall.

Coverage of treaty signature/ratification events

119. Media representatives will be able to cover the signature and ratification of treaties during the High-level Plenary Meeting from a special platform near the Delegates Entrance (ground level). There will be space for a limited number of photographers. For information, call the Treaty Section (telephone 212 963 5047).

L. Medical services

120. The United Nations Medical Service operates a walk-in clinic from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The clinic is located in the Innovation Luggage Building, 300 East 42nd Street, entrance on 2nd Avenue between 41st and 42nd Streets, 7th floor, room IN-703 (telephone 212 963 7090). In addition, a satellite clinic will be open Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 11.30 p.m., and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the North Lawn Building, room NL-1022. The clinic will be closed on Sunday. During the High-level Plenary Meeting, a first-aid station/satellite of the Service will be set up on the 2nd floor of the General Assembly Building adjacent to the General Assembly Hall.

121. Physicians travelling with Heads of State or Government may contact the Acting Head Nurse if they have special needs or if they need to view the facilities available at the Medical Service.

Acting Head Nurse: Ms. Susane Hufnagel (telephone 212 963 9009)

M. Host country liaison

122. All enquiries concerning host country matters should be directed to Russell F. Graham at the United States Mission to the United Nations during regular business hours (telephone 212 415 4330; after hours 212 415 4444).

N. Additional information and briefing sessions

123. Additional information will be issued as mentioned in paragraphs 27 and 35 above, or if the need arises to update and expand the information contained herein. In addition, question-and-answer sessions for interested delegations may be arranged in the weeks leading up to the High-level Meetings.

124. In the lead-up to the High-level Plenary Meetings, the following documents will be issued:

- Note verbale from Protocol on protocol/accreditation arrangements.
- Note verbale on bilateral meeting arrangements.
- Press kit for the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly.
- Delegates Handbook.
- Information circular to media.

O. Focal points for arrangements related to the High-level Meetings

General Assembly Affairs	<p>Ion Botnaru Telephone 212 963 0725</p> <p>Saijin Zhang Telephone 212 963 2336</p>
Facilities for bilateral meetings	<p>Emma Pioche Telephone 212 963 2952</p> <p>Martin Garratt Telephone 212 963 9369 Reservations emeets.un.org E-mail bilats-msu@un.org</p>
Protocol	<p>Desmond Parker Telephone 212 963 7179/7175 Fax 212 963 1921</p>
Delegation accreditation and access	<p>Wai Tak Chua Telephone 212 963 7181 Fax 212 963 1921</p>
Security	<p>Captain Mark Hoffman (Security Event Planning Unit) Telephone 212 963 7028 Fax 917 367 7032 E-mail: hoffmanm@un.org</p> <p>Lieutenant Steve Earley (Pass and Identification Unit) Telephone 212 963 7533 E-mail: earley@un.org</p> <p>Sergeant Dorothy Jones (Pass and Identification Unit) Telephone 212 963 7533 E-mail jones3@un.org</p>
Media	<p>Isabelle Broyer Telephone 212 963 6934 Fax 212 963 4642</p>

	Pragati Pascale Telephone 212 963 5851 Fax 212 963 9737
Facilities Management Service	Andrew Nye Telephone 212 963 7453
Broadcast and Conference Support Section	Patrick Morrison Telephone 212 963 0407
Capital Master Plan	Peter Smith Telephone 917 367 5853
	Werner Schmidt Telephone 917 367 5420

Annex I**Request for accreditation of media representatives****HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS AND SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY****UNITED NATIONS**

New York, September 2010

PROCEDURES TO APPLY FOR MEDIA ACCREDITATION

Bona fide representatives of media — print, photo, radio, television and film — will be accredited for coverage of the High-level Meeting and sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations to be held in New York, September 2010.

Those not in possession of a valid United Nations grounds pass should submit completed application forms, together with a letter of assignment, on official letterhead from the Editor or Bureau Chief, to:

**Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit
Department of Public Information
United Nations
Room L-248C
New York, NY 10017, USA
Fax 1 212 963 4642**

No acknowledgement will be sent to you. Applicants may call to confirm that their assignment letter and form have been received. Telephone 1 212 963 7164 or 1 212 963 4642.

Please be advised that applicants should bring with them their letter of assignment, together with two forms of photo identification (passport, national press credentials, driver's licence or work identification) when presenting themselves at the Media Accreditation Office on 801 1st Avenue (room U-100), located at the north-west corner of 1st Avenue and 45th Street. From 15 August to 30 September, the Media Accreditation Office will be located in a tent on the North Lawn, near the 48th Street entrance (situated on the south-east corner of 1st Avenue and 48th Street.

PLEASE NOTE: Application forms can be filled in online prior to printing and will be considered only if accompanied by a letter of assignment. Accreditation is free of charge. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.

Annex II

UNITED NATIONS  NATIONS UNIES
 SECURITY AND SAFETY SERVICE
SPECIAL SERVICES UNIT

Request for Grounds Pass — Security Staff

Issuance _____ Renewal _____ Duplicate _____

Name: _____

Country/Agency: _____

Protectee: _____

Official Seal	Date	Authorized Signature
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Print Name

(To be completed by the Special Services Unit)

Code / Weapon: UA A _____

(Must obtain prior approval from the Chief of Security and Safety Service)

Expiration Date: _____

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Proof of Identification (Must be presented at the Pass and Identification Office) _____



General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 February 2010

Original: English

Sixty-fourth session

Agenda items 48 and 114

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Keeping the promise: a forward-looking review to promote an agreed action agenda to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015

Report of the Secretary-General*

Summary

This report, which is issued pursuant to General Assembly resolution 64/184, presents information on progress made in achieving the Millennium Development Goals through a comprehensive review of successes, best practices and lessons learned, obstacles and gaps, and challenges and opportunities, leading to concrete strategies for action. It consists of four main sections. The introduction examines the importance of the Millennium Declaration and how it drives the United Nations development agenda. The second section reviews progress on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, presenting both shortfalls and successes in the global effort and outlines emerging issues. The third section sums up lessons learned to shape new efforts for accelerating progress to meet the Goals and identifies key success factors. The fourth and final section lists specific recommendations for action. The report calls for a new pact to accelerate progress in achieving the Goals in the coming years among all stakeholders, in a commitment towards equitable and sustainable development for all.

* In preparing this report, reference is made to many other reports, including: "Consensus for maternal, newborn and child health" (Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, 2009); *The Millennium Development Goals 2009* (United Nations, 2009); *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in Africa: Recommendations of the MDG Africa Steering Group* (June 2008); *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals* (United Nations Millennium Project, 2005); *Rethinking Poverty: Report on the World Social Situation 2010* (United Nations, 2010); and others. Invaluable inputs were received from the different funds, programmes, agencies and departments of the United Nations that have been working closely with Governments, civil society and the private sector over the past decade to advance progress towards the Millennium Development Goals.



I. Introduction

1. The adoption of the Millennium Declaration¹ in 2000 by 189 States Members of the United Nations, 147 of which were represented by their Head of State, was a defining moment for global cooperation in the twenty-first century. The Declaration captured previously agreed goals on international development, and gave birth to a set of concrete and measurable development objectives known as the Millennium Development Goals. Spurred by the Declaration, leaders from both developed and developing countries committed to achieve these interwoven goals by 2015.

2. The Millennium Development Goals are the highest profile articulation of the internationally agreed development goals associated with the United Nations development agenda, representing the culmination of numerous important United Nations summits held during the previous decade, including summits on sustainable development, education, children, food, women, population and social development. They are the world's quantified, time-bound targets for addressing extreme poverty, hunger and disease, and for promoting gender equality, education and environmental sustainability. They are also an expression of basic human rights: the rights of everyone to good health, education and shelter. The eighth Goal, to build a global partnership for development, includes commitments in the areas of development assistance, debt relief, trade and access to technologies.

3. During the past decade, the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals have led to unprecedented commitments and partnerships reaffirmed in successive summits and meetings, including the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development at Monterrey, Mexico, the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, in Johannesburg, South Africa, and the 2005 World Summit in New York. During this same period, the public and their Governments have also had to contend with new unanticipated challenges. Some have been specific to countries or regions, while others have been global, such as the food and economic crises of the last three years.

4. Our challenge today is to agree on an action agenda to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. With five years to go to the target date of 2015, the prospect of falling short of achieving the Goals because of a lack of commitment is very real. This would be an unacceptable failure from both the moral and the practical standpoint. If we fail, the dangers in the world — instability, violence, epidemic diseases, environmental degradation, runaway population growth — will all be multiplied.

5. Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals remains feasible with adequate commitment, policies, resources and effort. The Millennium Declaration represents the most important collective promise ever made to the world's most vulnerable people. This promise is not based on pity or charity, but on solidarity, justice and the recognition that we are increasingly dependent on one another for our shared prosperity and security.

6. The Millennium Development Goals provide a historic framework for focus and accountability. This fabric of accountability, however, is being tested and will need to be further strengthened to achieve the Goals by 2015. This is all the more important as the Goals are crucial stepping stones towards equitable and sustainable

¹ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

development for all. Meanwhile, the devastating impact of climate change looms large, and the international community is facing the challenge of working together to ensure the end of extreme poverty and sustainable development to save the planet and its people, especially the most vulnerable.

7. This report calls on all stakeholders, including national Governments, donor and other supportive Governments, the business community and civil society at large, to work in concert to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals are met by 2015. The high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to review the implementation of the Goals in September 2010 will provide a unique opportunity to strengthen collective efforts and partnerships for the push to 2015. The present report assesses achievements and shortfalls thus far, and suggests an action agenda for the period from 2011 to 2015.

II. Progress so far

8. A number of countries have achieved major successes in combating extreme poverty and hunger, improving school enrolment and child health, expanding access to clean water and access to HIV treatment and controlling malaria, tuberculosis and neglected tropical diseases. This has happened in some of the poorest countries, demonstrating that the Millennium Development Goals are indeed achievable with the right policies, adequate levels of investment, and international support. Considering their historical experience, some poor countries and even whole regions have made remarkable progress. For example, sub-Saharan Africa has made huge improvements in child health and in primary school enrolment over the past two decades. Between 1999 and 2004, sub-Saharan Africa achieved one of the largest ever reductions in deaths from measles worldwide.²

9. Nevertheless, progress has been uneven and, without additional efforts, several of the Millennium Development Goals are likely to be missed in many countries. The challenges are most severe in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, some small island developing States and countries that are vulnerable to natural hazards and recurring lapses into armed violence. Countries in or emerging from conflict are more likely to be poor and face greater constraints, because basic infrastructure, institutions and adequate human resources are often absent and lack of security hampers economic development.

10. Later this year, the *Millennium Development Goals Report 2010* and MDG Gap Task Force report will assess progress on achieving the Goals. The latest update of the 60 official Millennium Development Goal indicators will be presented in an addendum to the present report, to be issued later this spring. The following section

² It should be noted that accurately measuring progress towards the Millennium Development Goals is sometimes difficult when precise data are not available or come with a long time lag. Furthermore, progress at the global level obscures uneven progress at the regional, country and local levels. Thus, caution is needed in interpreting aggregate data and making judgements about overall progress. Evaluating the goals, targets and indicators by country may understate progress by the poorest countries, for example, halving poverty from 60 to 30 per cent of the population is much more difficult than from 6 to 3 per cent, especially as a 20 per cent increase in per capita income from \$1,000 per annum is worth only a tenth of a similarly proportioned increase from \$10,000.

of the report assesses successes, obstacles and gaps in order to draw lessons on actions needed to achieve the Goals.

A. A mixed picture of shortfalls and successes³

Progress on poverty reduction has been uneven and is now threatened

11. According to the World Bank's much cited "dollar-a-day" international poverty line, revised in 2008 to \$1.25 a day in 2005 prices, there were still 1.4 billion people living in extreme poverty in 2005, down from 1.8 billion in 1990.⁴ However, as China has accounted for most of this decrease, without China, progress does not look very encouraging; in fact, the number of people living in extreme poverty actually went up between 1990 and 2005 by about 36 million. In sub-Saharan Africa and parts of Asia, poverty and hunger remain stubbornly high. The number of "\$1 a day poor" went up by 92 million in sub-Saharan Africa and by 8 million in West Asia during the period 1990 to 2005.⁵ The poverty situation is more serious when other dimensions of poverty, acknowledged at the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, such as deprivation, social exclusion and lack of participation, are also considered.⁶

Hunger is increasing and remains an important global challenge

12. Despite earlier progress, the number of hungry has been rising since 1995 and the proportion of hungry people in the global population has been rising since 2004-2006. There are still over a billion hungry people, and more than 2 billion people are deficient in micronutrients; 129 million children were underweight and 195 million under age 5 were stunted. The number of hungry people worldwide rose from 842 million in 1990-1992 to 873 million in 2004-2006 and to 1.02 billion people during 2009, the highest level ever. This was largely a result of reduced access to food because of high food prices and the global financial and economic crisis, which has led to lower incomes and higher unemployment. Rising global hunger has undermined confidence in the declining global poverty estimates, as extreme poverty is supposed to be measured in terms of the income or expenditure considered necessary to avoid hunger.⁷ Of the 117 countries for which data are available, 63 are now on track to meet the Millennium Development Goal

³ This section draws on the *Millennium Development Goals Report 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.I.12) unless otherwise indicated.

⁴ This new estimate is about 50 per cent higher than the earlier World Bank estimate of poverty in 2005, based on its earlier \$1.08/day poverty line, up from the original \$1/day line in 1993 prices. Using 1993 as the baseline, and adjusting for consumer price inflation in the United States of America, would suggest a poverty line in 2005 of \$1.45, rather than the \$1.25 used by the Bank.

⁵ The food and fuel crises in 2007-2008 and the global financial and economic crisis have made the situation worse. The World Bank estimates that 100 million people in low-income countries were pushed deeper into poverty as a result of a doubling of food prices. According to the World Bank's *Global Economic Prospects 2010*, globally, and notwithstanding upward revisions to growth projections for 2010, the number of people living on \$1.25 per day or less is still expected to increase by some 64 million as compared with a no-crisis scenario.

⁶ See *Rethinking Poverty: Report on the World Social Situation 2010* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.IV.10).

⁷ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World: Economic Crisis: Impacts and Lessons Learned* (Rome, 2009).

underweight target, compared with 46 countries in 2006. Most of the 20 countries that have made no visible progress are in sub-Saharan Africa.⁸

Target for full and decent employment for all remains unfulfilled

13. Even though there is no deadline for meeting the target of achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all, no country can claim to have reached this target. Economic growth in many countries over the past decades did not produce rapid job growth, prompting the term “jobless growth”. The lack of progress in creating productive and decent jobs in urban areas, together with stagnant farm productivity in many rural areas, have been the key reasons for the persistence of poverty and the rise in the number of working poor. It is estimated that in 2008, some 633 million workers (21.2 per cent of the workers in the world) lived with their families on less than \$1.25 per person per day. As a result of the economic and financial crisis, it is estimated that in 2009 this number increased by up to 215 million, including 100 million in South Asia and 28 million in sub-Saharan Africa.⁹ This suggests that up to an additional 7 per cent of workers were at risk of falling into poverty between 2008 and 2009.

14. Over 300 million new jobs will need to be created over the next five years to return to pre-crisis levels of unemployment.¹⁰ The unemployed need more than just jobs; they need decent work that will give them adequate income and rights. The unemployment rate for young people (aged between 15 and 24 years) has risen faster than the overall unemployment rate worldwide. It reached as much as 14 per cent in 2009, an increase of 1.9 percentage points since 2008.⁹

Progress on universal access to education, but the goal remains unmet

15. There has been remarkable progress towards achieving universal primary education in developing countries since 2000, with many countries having crossed the 90 per cent enrolment threshold.¹¹ Enrolment in primary education has increased fastest in sub-Saharan Africa, from 58 per cent in 2000 to 74 per cent in 2007. However, the rapid rise in enrolment may cause pressure on the capacity of schools and teachers to deliver quality education.

16. Around 126 million children are still involved in hazardous work, and more than 72 million children of primary school age around the world, about half of them in sub-Saharan Africa, remain out of school. Furthermore, dropout rates remain high in many countries, implying that achieving 100 per cent primary school completion rates remains a challenge.

17. Inequalities continue to pose major barriers to attaining universal primary education. Children from the poorest 20 per cent of households account for over 40 per cent of all out-of-school children in many developing countries. In most developing countries, children from the wealthiest 20 per cent of households have

⁸ United Nations Development Group, MDG Gap Task Force, “MDG 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: review of progress, 2000-2010”, available at <http://www.undg.org/docs/10816/MDG-1.doc>.

⁹ International Labour Organization, *Global Employment Trends*, January 2010.

¹⁰ Ibid., “Recovering from the crisis: a Global Jobs Pact”, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session (Geneva, June 2009).

¹¹ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2009*.

already achieved universal primary education, while those from the poorest quintile have a long way to go.¹¹ Income-based disparities intersect with wider inequalities: children from rural areas, slums and areas affected by or emerging from conflict, children with disabilities and other disadvantaged children face major obstacles in accessing good quality education.

Insufficient progress on gender equality

18. Redressing gender inequality remains one of the most difficult goals almost everywhere, with implications that cut across many other issues. The root causes of gender disadvantage and oppression lie in societal attitudes and norms and power structures, as identified in the Beijing Platform for Action.

19. The share of national parliamentary seats held by women has increased only slowly, averaging 18 per cent as at January 2009. While this is far from the 30 per cent target envisioned in the Beijing Platform for Action, it represents a rise from 11 per cent 10 years earlier, a significantly greater increase than the 1 per cent increase between 1975 and 1995. Still, at the present rate it will take another 40 years for developing countries to reach between 40 and 60 per cent share of parliamentary seats for women.¹²

20. The gender gap in primary school enrolment has narrowed in the past decade, albeit at a slow pace. In developing countries in 2007, over 95 girls of primary school age were in school for every 100 boys, compared with 91 in 1999. Progress in secondary schooling has been slower, and in some regions, gaps are widening. In sub-Saharan Africa, the percentage of enrolment of girls compared with boys in secondary education fell from 82 per cent in 1999 to 79 per cent in 2007. Only 53 of the 171 countries with available data had achieved gender parity in both primary and secondary education, 14 more than in 1999.¹³

21. While participation of women in the labour force has increased, there are still significant gender gaps in participation rates, occupational levels and wages. Paid employment for women has expanded slowly and women continue to assume the largest share of unpaid work. Close to two thirds of all employed women in developing countries work as contributing family workers or as workers on their own account, typically in forms of employment that are extremely vulnerable and lack job security and benefits. Women's share of waged non-agricultural employment has increased in the last decade but only marginally, and women have generally failed to get decent jobs. In the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia, for example, the share of females in total employment is below 30 per cent.¹⁴

22. Violence against women remains a major blight on humanity everywhere. While there have been increased initiatives to address violence against women, such efforts are often not comprehensive, consistent, sustained or well-coordinated.¹²

¹² United Nations Development Fund for Women, *Progress of the World's Women, 2008/2009*.

¹³ United Nations Development Group, MDG Gap Task Force, "MDG-3: Promote gender equality and empower women", available at www.undg.org/docs/10821/MDG-3.doc.

¹⁴ World Bank, *Global Monitoring Report 2009*, annex, Monitoring the MDGs: selected indicators.

Significant progress on some health-related Millennium Development Goals

23. Deaths among children under five years of age have been reduced from 12.5 million per year (1990) to 8.8 million (2008).¹⁵ The number of people in low- and middle-income countries receiving antiretroviral therapy for HIV increased 10-fold in five years (2003-2008),¹⁶ and there has been significant progress in reducing deaths from measles and providing interventions to control tuberculosis and malaria. More than 500 million people are now treated annually for one or more neglected tropical diseases.

24. Nonetheless, based on current trends, many countries are unlikely to achieve the Millennium Development Goal health targets by 2015. The child mortality rate in developing countries fell from 99 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 72 in 2008.¹⁵ This is well short of the target of a two-thirds reduction (to 33 deaths per 1,000 live births). Furthermore, the rate of improvement has been uneven both among and within countries. Most noteworthy is the lack of progress in reducing deaths during the first month after birth (the neonatal period). Globally, 36 per cent of deaths among children under 5 years of age happen in this period.

25. The number of new HIV infections was 2.7 million in 2008, a decline of 30 per cent from the peak of 3.5 million in 1996. Meanwhile, the proportion of people receiving antiretroviral therapy increased from less than 5 per cent of those in need at the beginning of the decade to 42 per cent in 2008, and the number of women receiving treatment for prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV trebled, from 15 per cent in 2005 to 45 per cent in 2008.¹⁶

26. This progress has not yet been enough, however, to reverse the trajectory of the epidemic, because interventions for prevention and treatment often fall short in coverage: for every two people starting antiretroviral treatment, there are five new HIV infections. Prevention has not received sufficient priority.

27. Moreover, in 2008 only 21 per cent of pregnant women received HIV testing and counselling, while only one third of those identified as HIV-positive during antenatal care were subsequently assessed for eligibility to receive antiretroviral therapy for their own health.¹⁷ The voluntary family planning needs of persons living with HIV and their access to services are not routinely monitored. These problems are most pressing in sub-Saharan Africa, where the prevalence of HIV is, by far, the highest. Elsewhere, HIV epidemics are mostly concentrated within key populations that are at greater risk, including injecting drug users, sex workers and men who have sex with men.

28. The global incidence of tuberculosis appears to have peaked in 2004, and is now falling slowly in most parts of the world (except in African countries with a high prevalence of HIV). However, the burden of tuberculosis remains high. The epidemic of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis is a major concern, with growing evidence of extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis.

¹⁵ See www.childinfo.org.

¹⁶ Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, *AIDS Epidemic Update 2009*.

¹⁷ World Health Organization, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and United Nations Children's Fund, *Towards Universal Access*, progress report (September 2009).

29. Approximately 250 million malaria episodes occurred in 2008, leading to approximately 850,000 deaths;¹⁸ about 90 per cent of these deaths occurred in Africa, most among children under 5 years of age. However, major progress in increasing key malaria control interventions with a proven impact on the number of cases and deaths has been documented in many countries and areas. Approximately 200 million nets, out of the more than 340 million nets needed to achieve universal coverage (defined here as one net for every two people), were delivered to countries in Africa during the period 2004 to 2009. Use of insecticide-treated nets by children (one of the most vulnerable groups) rose from just 2 per cent in 2000 to 22 per cent in 2008 in a subset of 26 African countries with trend data (covering 71 per cent of the under-5 population in Africa), with 11 of these countries achieving at least a tenfold gain.¹⁹

Least progress in reducing maternal mortality

30. Access to reproductive health services remains poor where women's health risks are greatest. Deliveries attended by skilled health workers in developing regions have increased since 1990, from 53 per cent in 1990 to 61 per cent in 2007, but there has been little progress in reducing maternal deaths; maternal mortality declined only marginally, from 480 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1990 to 450 in 2005. At this rate, the target of 120 deaths per 100,000 live births by 2015 cannot be achieved. As part of broader investment in public health programmes, adequate financing for maternal health, especially dedicated to ensure safe deliveries, is critical.

31. Adolescent pregnancy rates have declined most in countries where initial levels were relatively low, while high adolescent fertility has persisted in many countries. The adolescent birth rate is highest in sub-Saharan Africa, where the rate of 123 births per 1,000 teenage girls was almost twice that of Latin America and the Caribbean, the second ranked region.

32. Unsafe abortions continued to account for one out of eight maternal deaths in 2005, despite increased contraceptive use among married women and women in unions. Nevertheless, 11 per cent of women in developing countries (including 24 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa) who want to delay or stop childbearing are not using contraception.

Limited progress on environmental sustainability

33. Some progress has been achieved towards the target of halving the proportion of people without access to clean water, but the proportion without improved

¹⁸ World Health Organization, *World Malaria Report 2009*.

¹⁹ Prompt and effective treatment is critical for addressing life-threatening complications from malaria. Anti-malarial treatment for children with fever is moderately high across Africa, although many febrile children are still being treated at home and with less effective medicines. Only four African countries currently have trend data for the use of artemisinin-based combination therapies among febrile children, which is the first-line treatment for uncomplicated malaria in nearly all African countries. Nevertheless, these limited data show promising gains in effective treatment coverage. Ghana, for example, increased artemisinin-based combination therapies coverage from 4 per cent in 2006 to 22 per cent in 2008, while coverage in the United Republic of Tanzania rose from 2 per cent in 2005 to 21 per cent in 2008 (World Malaria Day 2010, brochure, forthcoming (April 2010)).

sanitation decreased by only 8 percentage points between 1990 and 2006.²⁰ The goal of improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers has proved to be much less ambitious than necessary to reverse the trend of increasing numbers of slum dwellers.

34. The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer has resulted in the production and use of over 98 per cent of all controlled ozone-depleting substances being successfully phased out. In contrast, the rate of growth of carbon dioxide emissions was much higher during the 1995-2004 period than during the 1970-1994 period, and that trend has not changed. While net deforestation rates have decreased, some 13 million hectares of the world's forests are still lost each year, including six million hectares of primary forest.¹⁴ This loss has been only partially compensated for by afforestation. As a result, worldwide, around 7 million hectares of forest cover is lost every year.

35. The target to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010 has not been met. In the latest reports submitted to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, many Governments admit that the target will be missed at the national level. The International Union for the Conservation of Nature has reported that nearly 17,000 plant and animal species are known to be threatened with extinction. Major threats and drivers of biodiversity loss, such as over-consumption, habitat loss, invasive species, pollution and climate change, are not yet being effectively tackled.²¹

B. Emerging issues and challenges

36. This section of the present report highlights some challenges and some mitigating factors that have the potential to rollback gains and create obstacles to achieving development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. The challenge is to turn the challenges into opportunities, based on a proper analysis of the underlying causes and development of appropriate policies to tackle them.

Climate change

37. The most severe impacts of climate change are being experienced by vulnerable populations who have contributed the least to the problem. Addressing the climate change challenge provides opportunities for broader improvements in economies, governance, institutions and intergenerational relations and responsibilities; achieving the Millennium Development Goals should also contribute to the capacities needed to tackle climate change.

38. Switching to low greenhouse gas emitting, high-growth pathways to meet the development and climate challenges is both necessary and feasible.²² Combating global warming cannot be achieved without eventual reductions in emissions by both developed and developing countries. Technological options for a shift towards

²⁰ World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation, *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation: Special Focus on Sanitation* (New York and Geneva, 2008).

²¹ International Union for the Conservation of Nature, *Wildlife in a Changing World, 2009* (report based on the analysis of the 44,838 species on the IUCN Red List).

²² *World Economic and Social Survey 2009* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.II.C.1).

such pathways exist. Such a switch would entail unprecedented and costly socio-economic adjustments in developing countries. For this to happen, the shift will require much greater international support and solidarity.

39. Achieving such a transformation hinges on a global new deal capable of raising investment levels and channelling resources towards massive investment in renewable energy, and building resilience with respect to unavoidable climate changes. Most developing countries currently do not have the financial resources, technological know-how or institutional capacity to deploy such strategies at a speed commensurate with the urgency of the climate challenge. Failure to honour long-standing commitments of international support in these three areas remains the single biggest obstacle to meeting the challenge of climate change.

40. Climate-resistant development is imperative, and investments to achieve it will be the main way to overcome the perception of a trade off between development and addressing climate change. Beyond existing official development assistance (ODA) commitments, adaptation and mitigation in developing countries would require financial assistance of perhaps an additional 1 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) of rich countries in 2015,²³ a small sum compared with the likely costs of inaction. Many alternative approaches — such as large-scale solar power or restoration of heavily degraded or unused land — will need to be encouraged, supported and even subsidized. Economic incentives will be required to accelerate a transition to cleaner technologies.

The current crises: finance, the economy and food security

41. Although the measures taken so far in response to the global financial and economic crisis have been able to prevent a deeper recession, they do not yet add up to a sustainable long-term solution. Little has been done to address speculative forces that caused financial markets to undermine the real sector priorities. Official international discussion of financial reforms was until recently largely focused on executive remuneration, rather than on better regulation of financial markets, let alone the impacts of the crisis on currency and commodity markets and on the trading system.

42. The global financial architecture will need to be overhauled. The failings of the financial sector certainly require improved regulatory oversight, higher buffer capital requirements, and effective and equitable measures to deal with financial institutions deemed “too big to fail”. There is also a need to make financial markets less volatile and more predictable. At the same time, these initiatives will need to be properly designed to ensure that they also help to boost both investment and private demand, as well as to make sure that the economic recovery does not collapse as soon as public efforts are withdrawn. It is also vital that recovery efforts do not resort to open or disguised protectionist measures. Productive integration of economies must proceed with an eye to increasing equity and providing social floors and other social protection.

43. Innovative measures should be used to address the food and other crises. There are many important cost-effective innovations in the field of nutrition ready to be

²³ Nicholas Stern, “Deciding our future in Copenhagen: will the world rise to the challenge of climate change?”, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, policy brief (December 2009); p. 3; and *World Economic and Social Survey 2009*.

scaled up. They include complementary and supplementary nutritious food items (nutrient supplements) to address the specific needs of young children and the ill, including those living with HIV, and more diversified production of nutritious local foodstuffs. Agriculture's share of ODA — merely 4 per cent in 2006 and down from almost 20 per cent a few decades ago — should increase. There should be significant new investment in enhancing capacities of small farmers, more efficient water management technologies, restoration of soil nutrients, more stress-resistant agricultural varieties and market opportunities for small farmers.

Intensifying prevention of violence and responses to humanitarian crises

44. The risk of disasters is increasing globally and is highly concentrated in middle- and low-income countries.²⁴ Reducing that risk and increasing resilience to natural hazards in different development sectors can have multiplier effects and accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations, and Communities to Disasters, endorsed by Member States, commits all countries to make major efforts to reduce their risk of disaster by 2015. The horrific loss of life in Haiti underscores the need to ensure that the human-built environment is resilient in the face of an array of potential hazards, both seismic and climatic.

45. Armed violence, conflict (inter-State, civil and criminal) and the resulting breakdown of the rule of law, justice and security are also a major threat to human security and to the hard-won Millennium Development Goal gains. Thus, there is an urgent need to focus on the root causes of conflict and armed violence and on advancing people-centred solutions. This requires strengthening institutions that monitor and mitigate conflicts, crime and violence, as well as identifying and addressing the underlying drivers, risk factors and tensions before they turn into armed conflicts and humanitarian crises. Reforms to strengthen institutions should include promoting transparency and giving voice and representation to previously underrepresented communities to make them stakeholders in the peace process.

46. What happens after conflicts are resolved is also vital. This should include promoting the rule of law, justice and security, implementing armed violence reduction strategies, early economic recovery support, rebuilding capacities, building democratic institutions and re-engaging countries in the global architecture without undermining national ownership of strategies. This period must be used more effectively to eliminate inequalities and discrimination in law and in practice, and to guarantee equal access to resources and opportunities.

Addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable

47. Attention must be focused on the special needs of the most vulnerable and the large and increasing inequalities in various economic and social dimensions, including geography, sex, age, disability, ethnicity and other vulnerabilities. Some urgent issues are highlighted below:

(a) Children from poor households, rural areas, slums and other disadvantaged groups face major obstacles in access to a good quality education. The literacy gap between the children from the wealthiest 20 per cent of households

²⁴ United Nations, *2009 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction: Risk and Poverty in a Changing Climate*.

and those from the poorest 20 per cent is more than 40 percentage points. Children with disabilities remain among the most marginalized and least likely to go to school;¹¹

(b) Very young children are especially vulnerable. Children who are stunted at age 2 tend to suffer severe life-long consequences in terms of poorer health and reduced cognitive development and economic opportunities;

(c) Indigenous people are overrepresented among the poor, with their level of access to adequate health and education services well below national averages. They are especially vulnerable to environmental degradation. Indigenous peoples make up 15 per cent of the world's poor and a third of the world's 900 million extremely poor rural people;²⁵

(d) Around 1.8 million children under the age of 15 in sub-Saharan Africa live with HIV, while some 12 million children under the age of 18 have lost one or both parents to AIDS. In 56 countries for which recent household survey data are available, orphans who had lost both parents were 12 per cent less likely to be in school, and often become a head of household, assuming enormous responsibilities at an early age. The impact of being orphans may be especially severe for girls, who are generally more likely than boys not to be in school.²⁶ Children without the guidance and protection of their primary caregivers are more at risk of becoming victims of violence, exploitation, trafficking, discrimination and other abuses resulting in malnutrition, illness, physical and psychosocial trauma, and impaired cognitive and emotional development. Unaccompanied girls are at especially high risk of sexual abuse;

(e) At the end of 2008, there were some 42 million forcibly displaced people worldwide. This included 15.2 million refugees, 827,000 asylum-seekers (pending cases) and 26 million internally displaced persons. Women and girls represent 47 per cent of refugees and asylum-seekers and half of all internally displaced persons and returnees. Among refugees and asylum-seekers, 44 per cent are children below 18 years of age. More than 5.7 million refugees are trapped in protracted situations for which there is limited hope of finding a solution in the near future, including some 70 per cent of refugees in Africa.²⁷ In sub-Saharan Africa, 7 out of 10 refugees reside in often isolated and insecure refugee camps, with restrictions on movements affecting employment, education and health and other services.²⁸ They become dependent on subsistence-level assistance, or less, and lead lives of poverty, frustration and unrealized potential.

²⁵ International Fund for Agricultural Development, "Statistics and key facts about indigenous peoples", available at www.ruralpovertyportal.org.

²⁶ Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, "Report on the global AIDS epidemic" (2008).

²⁷ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, *2008 Global Trends: Refugees, Asylum-seekers, Returnees, Internally Displaced and Stateless Persons* (2009).

²⁸ *Ibid.*, *The State of The World's Refugees 2006: Human Displacement in the New Millennium* (2006).

III. Lessons learned for accelerating progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals

A. Lessons learned²⁹

National ownership

48. National ownership of development strategies is fundamental, as one-size-fits-all policies and programmes are bound to fail owing to wide variations among countries in terms of their capacity (resources, institutions, administration) and historical and geographical circumstances. Ownership is also vital to ensure national commitment to development goals. Successful countries have pursued pragmatic, heterodox mixtures of policies, with enhanced domestic capacities. Countries should therefore be encouraged to design and implement their own development strategies and to strengthen their domestic capacities. Global partnerships should support such national development strategies and domestic capacity-building efforts.

Sustained and equitable growth

49. Sustained and equitable growth based on dynamic structural economic change is necessary for making substantial progress in reducing poverty. It also enables faster progress towards the other Millennium Development Goals. While economic growth is necessary, it is not sufficient for progress on reducing poverty. The countries that were most successful in reducing extreme poverty managed to sustain high economic growth over prolonged periods, and most managed to do so by jumpstarting the growth process by increasing agricultural productivity followed by dynamic growth of modern industry and services sectors. Effective industrial policies typically underpinned the economic transformation, and high growth facilitated job creation and income growth for workers. Income growth underpinned greater resource availability, facilitating — when combined with adequate social policies — better coverage and quality of social services in support of the achievement of the other Millennium Development Goals.

Macroeconomic policies

50. Forward-looking macroeconomic policies are needed to safeguard the sustainability of public investment strategies in support of broad-based growth and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Macroeconomic policies should not focus narrowly on debt stabilization and curbing inflation, but should ultimately be supportive of growth of real output and employment. It is often necessary, therefore, to relax unnecessarily stringent fiscal and monetary restrictions and to use countercyclical fiscal and monetary policies to boost employment and incomes and to minimize the impact of external and other shocks on poverty. This requires countries to strengthen mobilization of domestic resources and adopt mechanisms that promote countercyclical policy responses. Enhanced international cooperation to strengthen tax revenue collection and increase sovereign debt sustainability can greatly buttress the fiscal capacities of all Governments.

²⁹ For evidence and an analytical discussion, see *Rethinking Poverty: Report on the World Social Situation 2010* and the work of the United Nations Development Group Millennium Development Goal Gap Task Force (see www.undg.org). See also World Bank, *Economic Growth in the 1990s: Learning from a Decade of Reform* (2005).

Social services

51. Ensuring universal access to social services and providing a social protection floor with wide coverage are essential to consolidate and achieve further gains in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The social consequences of economic crises have been most severe in countries where social protection systems were weakest and least adequate, made worse by their weak institutional and fiscal capacity. More importantly, when growth collapses owing to external shocks, natural disasters or health epidemics, societal cohesion may rupture, leading to civil violence. Not surprisingly, civil violence is more prevalent and also more likely to recur in poorer societies, especially where Governments are unwilling or unable to afford social protection or promote social integration. Countries should therefore have universal social protection floors in place to support the maintenance and regeneration of livelihoods, particularly of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. The “social protection floor” concept promotes a set of social transfers and rights allowing individuals to access essential goods and services. Social protection schemes are not merely desirable, but are a sine qua non for inclusive development by addressing inequality and social exclusion. Social development should be considered broadly to include: support for smallholder agriculture, nutrition programmes, school meals, access to primary health and education, access to safe water and sanitation, and support for indigent, disabled and otherwise impoverished households. Food-for-work programmes can often provide a vital buffer. The provision of basic social protection schemes (like social pensions and other cash transfer programmes) for all are fiscally affordable for most developing economies,³⁰ but not for the poorest, unless they receive ample international assistance to finance such programmes.

Inequality

52. Inequality and social exclusion, which limit the contribution of growth to the Millennium Development Goals, must be addressed. Inequalities of access, social protection and opportunities need to be greatly reduced. While most interventions related to the Goals primarily seek to redress inequalities in access to services (e.g., employment, health, education, water and sanitation), other interventions put greater emphasis on inequalities in social protection and economic opportunities.

The community

53. Holistic, community-led strategies are more effective than stand-alone programmes. The Millennium Villages project, supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with many partner institutions in civil society, academia and business, has shown that synergistic investments in agriculture, health, education, infrastructure, business development and environmental conservation can lead to rapid and considerable progress in food security, school attendance and performance, reduced hunger and improved livelihoods in a short period of time. Governments and development partners should put more emphasis on such holistic approaches in both rural and urban contexts, and should scale up successful efforts currently under way.

³⁰ International Labour Organization, “Can low-income countries afford basic social security?” *Social security policy briefings*, No. 3 (Geneva, 2008).

Interventions

54. Targeted intervention programmes, based on complementary public and private investments, have proven successful and have been crucial for progress towards achieving most Millennium Development Goals. Investments in smallholder agriculture are vital for fighting hunger; investments in schools and teachers are vital for universal primary education; investments in public health are vital for Goals 4, 5 and 6. Investments in water and sanitation are vital for Goal 7. When public investments are targeted and of sufficient scale, progress in achieving the Goals is more likely to be rapid. When public investments are not forthcoming, as in efforts to ensure maternal deliveries, then progress has been modest at best.

55. Accelerating interventions is feasible and is of paramount importance in order to speed up progress where current trends make achievement of the Millennium Development Goals unlikely. Targeted interventions can quickly improve people's lives by providing access to essential goods and services. Examples include providing subsidized agricultural inputs, scaling-up school meal programmes, eliminating user fees for education and health care, and providing conditional cash transfers to poor households. While such measures should not substitute for well-planned and managed national development strategies backed by responsive partnerships for development, they should not wait for longer-term structural transformations as delays have irreversible adverse consequences for the poorest and most vulnerable.

Financial support

56. Adequate, consistent and predictable financial support, as well as a coherent and predictable policy environment, at both the national and international levels, are crucial for achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Lack of adequate and predictable international financing has been an important constraint. There is an urgent need to broaden and strengthen partnerships to ensure supportive international frameworks for trade, taxation, technology and climate change mitigation and adaptation to sustain long-term human development; and for sufficient, predictable and well-coordinated financing for development, including national budgets, ODA, philanthropy, debt relief and new financing sources, instruments, arrangements and institutions.

Governance

57. Governance and institutional implementation capacities at the country level, which are both development outcomes and desirable ends in themselves, can contribute to accelerating progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Countries can accelerate progress by adhering to the fundamental norms and values of the Millennium Declaration, including human rights, gender equality and democratic governance. In order to achieve the Goals, integrity, accountability and transparency are crucial for managing resources, recovering assets and combating the abuse, corruption and organized crime that are adversely affecting the poor. Democratic governance, as a process of empowering people and communities, is essential for human development. "Good governance" goals should however be pursued in conjunction with development, especially in the face of limited fiscal resources and administrative capacities. Pragmatic developmental governance reforms

to address bottlenecks in the process of accelerating development and progress towards the Millennium Development Goals should be emphasized in the short term.

Monitoring

58. Better monitoring and data are vital for better design of and timely intervention in programmes and policies. It is also crucial for ensuring accountability by development partners and stakeholders.³¹ Although slowly improving, the availability of reliable statistics for monitoring development remains inadequate in many poor countries and the challenge of building effective in-country capacity to produce better policy-relevant data remains huge. Although statistics are increasingly recognized as an indispensable tool for development, resources devoted to statistics are still very limited. With support from development partners, countries also need to increase public expenditure for national statistical systems to effectively monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and other development indicators in order to better inform policy interventions.

Key success factors

Key success factors³² are listed below:

1. Effective Government leadership and national ownership of development strategies.
2. Effective policies to support implementation, defined in this context as laws, regulations, standards, administrative procedures and guidelines (general or specific to the Millennium Development Goals) that affect private behaviour and the conduct of service providers and others with whom they must interact.
3. Improved quantity, quality and focus of investments, financed both by domestic sources and international development assistance, based on a holistic approach, including smallholder agriculture, health, education, infrastructure, business development and environmental conservation.
4. Appropriate institutional capacity to deliver quality services equitably on a national scale, such as adequate facilities, competent staff, appropriate supplies and equipment and effective monitoring and evaluation.
5. Civil society and community involvement and empowerment, which enhances the likelihood of success by giving individuals and communities the ability to take charge of their own lives.
6. Effective global partnerships, involving all relevant stakeholders, including donor Governments, local communities, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and foundations, with mutual accountability of all stakeholders.

³¹ Millennium Development Goal tracking and monitoring at the global, regional and country levels, briefing note prepared by the Bureau for Development Policy, United Nations Development Programme, 27 August 2009.

³² For further details, see “Accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals” (United Nations Development Programme, forthcoming) and the work of the United Nations Development Group Millennium Development Goal Task Force.

7. Good governance by donors and recipients, which, inter alia, involves timely and predictable delivery of aid by donors on the one hand, and enhanced State and societal capacity of recipient countries to manage scaled-up resource flows transparently and with accountability on the other.

59. One significant achievement of the past decade is that national Governments and their partners, even in countries lagging far behind on many Millennium Development Goals, have a good sense of the programmes and interventions required to meet the Goals. The three critical challenges, in most cases, have been to have in place a feasible national scale-up plan, to obtain adequate financing based on both domestic and foreign sources, including development assistance, and to develop well-functioning delivery mechanisms for public investment and service delivery. The success stories highlight, for each Millennium Development Goal, how these critical success factors came together to produce remarkable results. While country characteristics (geographic, demographic, economic, cultural) inevitably vary and the specific interventions that have been successfully implemented differ with country specificities, the examples demonstrate these common success factors.

60. The success stories underscore the imperative of a holistic approach and confirm that positive results across the Millennium Development Goals and the broader enabling environment enhance the likelihood of sustained progress towards each of the Goals. They help define our collective accountability, but must be seen holistically. The synergies among the Goals are clear and indisputable, as demonstrated in the Millennium Villages. Taking advantage of these will reduce costs, increase effectiveness and catalyse local action. The education target, for example, requires progress on health. The health targets require progress on hunger and nutrition. The hunger target requires progress in agriculture and nutrition, and so on. There are many positive examples of integrated approaches to the Goals yielding tremendous success. We must learn from these examples and scale up successful interventions. The goals, targets and indicators of the Millennium Development Goals were conceived to reflect an integrated approach to development as worded in the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome document.

B. Accelerating progress

61. The critical question today is how to dramatically increase the pace of change on the ground in the remaining five years, so that the promises of 2000 translate into real progress for the world's poorest people, particularly at this time of global economic downturn. In the light of the 2015 deadline, accelerating progress is essential; with barely half a decade left, much more accelerated progress is required, especially for the poorest countries.

62. Significant gaps still remain and many targets are not on track to being achieved in a good number of countries. Moreover, challenges persist in areas such as environmental sustainability, even in countries that have made impressive gains in reducing poverty over the past decade, including large parts of Asia. Rollbacks on progress as a result of the food, fuel and financial crises, and emerging issues such as climate change, have compounded the challenge. Delayed job recovery from the

global economic downturn remains a major challenge for poverty reduction in the years to come, and climate change is likely to have devastating impacts on vulnerable countries and communities.

63. Although the primary focus of the Millennium Development Goals is developing countries, where deprivation is most stark, deficits in human development are to be found in developed countries as well, especially among specific marginalized communities. Vulnerability, discrimination, social exclusion and gender disparities still persist in advanced countries and must not be overlooked.

64. As the country success stories demonstrate, targeted, near-term, “acceleration” interventions — such as subsidizing crucial agricultural inputs, immunization, eliminating user fees for education and health services and addressing human resource constraints in health — are still of paramount importance to speed up progress where current trends make achievement of the Millennium Development Goals unlikely. New technology-based solutions that did not exist when the Goals were endorsed, can and should be leveraged to allow for rapid scaling up. The most important of these technologies involve use of mobile telephones, broadband Internet, and other information and communications technologies.

65. At the same time, interventions need to be framed in the context of national development strategies that define actions to ensure sustainability of the results in the long term. Especially, even if not exclusively, in times of global economic, food and climate volatility, when Millennium Development Goals reversals are a real possibility, creating the enabling environment essential to sustaining progress towards the Goals can be just as important as accelerating achievements. While a short-term perspective, focused on securing immediate gains, can be effective in saving lives and alleviating suffering, it should not be understood as exclusive of, or even incompatible with, longer-term structural changes necessary to sustain progress over time.

66. The very fact that the challenges of poverty, food, energy, global recession and climate change are all interrelated has presented the global community with a unique opportunity to tackle them together. The critical requirement for a “global green new deal” is a commitment by all to frontload large public investments in renewable energy in order to achieve economies of scale and learning, generate employment in both rich and poor countries, and lay the foundation for a new phase of global economic and technological advancement. Besides benefiting the poor, such investment would also lay the basis for sustainable development, stimulate complementary investments in infrastructure and agriculture, and help raise agricultural productivity, thus enhancing food security and creating decent jobs for the rural poor.³³

67. The main elements of this framework include ensuring that responses to the economic downturn provide support for what has worked in the past, especially protecting the growth momentum in developing countries, sustaining support for integrated poverty eradication programmes, enhancing the reach of targeted interventions, laying the infrastructural foundations for a new era of sustainable

³³ The *World Economic and Social Survey 2009* contains a detailed proposal for synergistic achievement of developmental and climate goals. See also, World Bank, *World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change*.

economic development, and protecting poor countries and communities from the adverse impacts of global crises.

68. Both acceleration and sustainability of progress must therefore be pursued concomitantly. Accelerated and sustainable progress towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals will be contingent on our combined efforts to do three things much more effectively than we have been able to do in the past:

(a) To scale up implementation of proven and innovative interventions in such key domains as gender, sustainable agriculture (including inputs for smallholders and sustainable environmental management), energy, education and health. This effort needs to be backed by targeted investment, informed community participation, and adequate institutional capacities to effectively mobilize and manage financial resources and deliver public services;

(b) To build the structural and economic foundations to support and sustain progress and mitigate risks of reversal in achieving the Millennium Development Goals through effective social and economic policies and institutions grounded in universal rights and supportive of structural changes and social cohesion, improved conditions for peace, security and good governance, public and private investments that lead to faster pro-poor growth, and effective measures to ensure environmental sustainability;

(c) To broaden and strengthen partnerships to ensure greater global and regional integration, a supportive international framework for trade, technology transfer and climate change mitigation and adaptation in order to sustain long-term human development; and to ensure sufficient, predictable, and well-coordinated financing for development, including national budgets, ODA, philanthropy, debt relief and new financing instruments. This third element builds on the recognition that both within and across countries, no single stakeholder can achieve the first two strategic priorities on their own.

69. Specific Millennium Development Goals will require specific acceleration efforts, as outlined below:

Poverty and hunger (Millennium Development Goal 1)

70. To achieve Millennium Development Goal 1:

(a) Poor countries with large agricultural sectors should focus on bolstering agricultural productivity and output quality. A sharp increase in agricultural productivity can accomplish several things simultaneously: (i) reduced hunger; (ii) reduced child mortality through improved nutrition; (iii) reduced maternal mortality through improved nutrition; and (iv) higher household incomes and economic growth;

(b) To boost productivity, smallholder farmers must gain immediate access to inputs — such as fertilizer, high-yield seeds, equipment, small-scale irrigation, technical extension and post-harvest storage — in order to modernize and commercialize traditional farming. At the same time, sustainable agricultural practices need to be introduced. Intensive farming, if not properly regulated, can lead to the depletion of water sources, pollution by chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and a loss of biodiversity;

(c) Producing more food directly affects only one aspect of food security³⁴ (i.e., availability) and must be complemented by other interventions to address inequities of access to food and to bolster nutrition. Food security programmes should therefore also address issues of access to adequate nutritious food (taking into account local food consumption preferences and different nutritional requirements) and implement integrated nutrition programmes for the poor and vulnerable. In the short term, hunger hotspots within countries should be a top priority. Prevention-based interventions such as the distribution of vital micronutrient fortification and supplementation, as well as targeted support of children through the provision of school-based meals, must also be complemented by treatment-based interventions such as the treatment of severe and moderate levels of acute malnutrition and mass de-worming for children;

(d) Access to decent and productive employment and promotion of entrepreneurship is fundamental to pro-poor growth and efforts to address poverty and hunger. Successful programmes, especially employment-intensive initiatives, small and medium-sized enterprise promotion, employment guarantee schemes and conditional cash transfers, as well as vocational and technical training and entrepreneurial skills development, especially for unemployed youth, can yield positive results in reducing poverty and should be more widely applied to cover larger parts of the population, especially women and in rural areas;

(e) Close attention should be paid to the recommendations contained in the Global Jobs Pact, adopted by the Governments and employers' and workers' delegates of the International Labour Organization (ILO) 183 member States. The Pact proposes a range of tested crisis-response and recovery measures that focus on employment and social protection. It is not a one-size-fits-all solution, but a portfolio of tried and tested policy options that countries can adapt to their specific needs and situation.

Education (Millennium Development Goal 2)

71. To achieve Millennium Development Goal 2:

(a) National education systems need to be strengthened by addressing infrastructure, human resource and governance constraints, backed by international donor support;

(b) When scaling up education budgets, inequalities across income, gender and geographical, linguistic and ethnic lines should be addressed when allocating resources. Interventions should address problems of access to schooling from the supply and demand side. On the supply side, adequate services need to be provided and made accessible based on a robust needs analysis. On the demand side, targeted measures need to be put in place to attract children from poor households, rural areas or minority ethnic groups to school. Successful examples of making primary education more available, accessible and affordable include abolishing school fees, subsidies for other costs (e.g., textbooks, uniforms and transportation) and innovative approaches to school (e.g., community schools, mobile schooling, distance learning and multi-grade teaching). Programmes strengthening linkages between education, health and nutrition, such as school meal programmes and social

³⁴ Food security exists when all people, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for an active and healthy life.

protection measures (e.g., cash transfers and social insurance), have also proven successful;

(c) Progression through the school system — retention, completion and learning achievement — is another challenge that needs to be urgently addressed. Appropriate learning environments and quality of education can be ensured through the development of child-friendly schools, effective and comprehensive teacher strategies (e.g., recruitment and retention policies, underpinned by initial and in-service teacher education and development; teacher status and working conditions), enhanced pedagogical support and learner-relevant curricula, educational materials and languages of instruction.

Gender equality (Millennium Development Goal 3)

72. To achieve Millennium Development Goal 3:

(a) Key barriers to girls' education need to be removed, including by providing scholarships, cash transfers and eliminating user fees; support for girls, especially at the secondary level where too many girls are forced to leave school because of school expenses, should be expanded; completion and attendance rates need to be tracked; the quality of education must be improved; and investment in girls' enrolment in secondary school must be scaled up;

(b) The generation of full and productive employment and the creation of decent work and income for those beyond school age must be made the primary goal of macroeconomic, social and development policies, including by promoting equal skills development and employment opportunities, reducing wage gaps between women and men;

(c) Social protection measures and labour laws and policies that are gender-responsive should be introduced; and legal protections for the most vulnerable women workers introduced and enforced. Particular attention should be paid to gender gaps in school-to-work transition for young people, making education and training relevant to labour market demand, based on a life-cycle and rights-based approach;

(d) Positive action to improve the numbers and influence of women in all political decision-making should be introduced, including by investing in women's leadership in local decision-making structures and by creating an even playing field for men and women within political parties. With few exceptions, the 26 countries that have achieved or surpassed the goal of women securing 30 per cent of seats in national assemblies over the past five years have introduced some form of positive action;

(e) National-level capacity to track and report on progress, gaps and opportunities should be improved through better generation and use of sex-disaggregated data and statistics, including on time use;

(f) Women's work burden must be reduced through investment in infrastructure, labour saving technologies and gender-responsive economic stimulus packages;

(g) Accountability for enhancing women's rights and ending gender discrimination should be strengthened — in line with commitments made in the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Beijing

Platform for Action and relevant ILO conventions — including through eliminating inequalities in access to land and property and by investing in implementation of laws, policies and programmes to prevent and address violence against women;

(h) Investments for gender equality must be scaled up, including by institutionalizing “gender-responsive budgeting”, as part of public financial management reforms to ensure that financial commitments advance gender equality.

Health (Millennium Development Goals 4, 5 and 6)

73. To achieve Millennium Development Goals 4, 5 and 6:

(a) Strengthening national health systems with the active participation of civil society organizations can significantly improve both maternal and child health. Strengthening health systems involves addressing human resource constraints, building new infrastructure, upgrading and improving supply systems, and improving governance and stewardship through a larger role in informal, formal and decentralized systems of health protection. Additional international development assistance is vital for scaling up health systems in low-income countries;

(b) Targeted interventions in key areas — such as immunization programmes, increasing the number of trained midwives and the use of insecticide-treated bednets — are known to have strong positive impacts but are more sustainable when embedded in a strategy aimed at providing comprehensive universal primary health care;

(c) Interventions that have the greatest impact on health-related Millennium Development Goal targets, such as universal access to sexual and reproductive health, immunization and key child-survival interventions, HIV prevention, mitigation and treatment, prevention and treatment of neglected tropical diseases, prevention and treatment services for malaria and tuberculosis and low-cost access to safe water and sanitation should be urgently scaled up and made universal to accelerate progress on the health Millennium Development Goals;

(d) There is a need for a scale up of global financing, but it needs to be done in predictable ways. Targeted disease-control programmes have been highly successful;

(e) Specific regions and vulnerable and marginalized groups should be prioritized (with special attention to the poor, rural populations, women and youth) with a view to extending health protection to those in need and the excluded;

(f) The capacity of all stakeholders to address issues of gender equality and delivery of health services should be strengthened and partnerships with civil society organizations, including women’s groups, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, should be promoted.

Promoting sustainable development (Millennium Development Goal 7)

74. One of the difficulties in making progress towards the overall objective of Millennium Development Goal 7 is the lack of a framework or means of integrating different components of environmental sustainability. While Goal 7 contains elements that contribute to environmental sustainability, when added together, they do not provide a full picture. This weakness can be exacerbated at the national level if countries mechanically adopt the global set of targets and indicators without

explicitly linking or tailoring them to national priorities. What is needed is for countries to adopt the principle of environmental sustainability and then adapt that principle to national priorities and policies, the local context and subnational or ecosystem specificities.

Ecological sustainability and addressing climate change

75. Efforts to accelerate progress towards the Millennium Development Goals must take account of the rapidly changing development landscape transformed by ecosystem decline, including the challenges posed by climate change. Pro-poor development centred on natural resources can be pursued at a local or community level or on a national scale. Both approaches are necessary for maximum poverty reduction. Comprehensive and coherent development planning frameworks, including national sustainable development strategies, are a useful means of integrating all of the aspects related to environmental sustainability that are relevant to any given country in a balanced manner. This is one of the conclusions drawn from the indicators that are making good progress. Furthermore, successful strategies tend to build on the active involvement of the local and municipal authorities and population and of all relevant stakeholders in the planning, programming and budgeting cycle, as well as the adoption of strong national legislation with mandatory targets and commitments towards the attainment of the objectives. It is important that public-private partnerships ensure genuine contributions by the private sector that would not have occurred without such partnerships.

76. Greater efforts are needed in both developed and developing countries to promote alternative renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies. Policy reforms to substantially reduce perverse subsidies for carbon-intensive development, and to create positive incentives, appropriate taxes and other initiatives (such as a global feed-in tariff arrangement to encourage renewal energy generation and use) that will encourage the adoption of renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies, are urgently needed. The internationally subsidized generation of renewable energy as the basis for development in developing countries will address the perceived trade-off between addressing climate change at the expense of development and will in addition provide major new opportunities for private investment to emerge from the economic crisis and generate considerable employment.

77. Greatly expanded investment in sustainable ecosystem management is needed to reduce the vulnerability of the poor and to maximize the contribution of natural resources to rural development. Poor people need secure resource rights and other enabling conditions for poverty reduction. Biodiversity protection measures must respect indigenous peoples' traditional rights to marine- and forest-based livelihoods.

78. National action plans and investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy will be key to shifting to low carbon growth, creating "green" employment and reducing poverty.

Safe drinking water and sanitation

79. Considering the lack of progress on sanitation, delivering on sanitation targets will require considerable political will together with significant financial, technical

and human resources. Past experience suggests that the main problems have been over-reliance on supply-driven approaches, neglect of user needs and emphasis on large-scale projects, often due to public sector neglect or relinquishment of responsibility, often due to fiscal constraints. A demand-responsive approach is almost always constrained by poor people not having enough purchasing power to pay for improved sanitation. Retaining public provisioning of such services often conserves scarce governance and regulatory capabilities in developing countries, while achieving more universal access.

80. Integrated national water strategies addressing the four main uses of fresh water — agriculture, households, industry and ecosystem services — must robustly respond to the growing water shortages, which are exacerbated by climate change.

Reducing slum populations

81. Cities in developing countries around the world are home to rising numbers of poor people and do not have the capacity to create jobs to sustainably absorb the population influx and achieve the necessary progress needed to meet the Millennium Development Goals. In the face of rapid urbanization, these challenges will only become more acute unless adequate corrective actions are taken. These measures should include sound urban planning, which is essential for the sustainable growth of urban centres. They should stipulate the roles of the key stakeholders — local authorities, organizations of the urban poor, private sector (formal and informal), central Government, district, state and provincial authorities and line ministries. Ultimately, more balanced growth, including rural development, is the only long-term solution insofar as it addresses the pull and push factors involved in rural-urban migration.

Expanding and strengthening international partnerships (Millennium Development Goal 8)

82. In the countdown to 2015, amidst a global economic crisis, the need to accelerate delivery on Millennium Development Goal 8 commitments has now reached emergency proportions, rather than simply being a matter of urgency.

Official development assistance

83. Although ODA reached its highest level ever in 2008, there remain large gaps in meeting existing and long-standing commitments. The Gleneagles Group of Eight (G-8) ODA target for 2010 is approximately \$154 billion in present values, and additional flows of \$35 billion by 2010 will need to be delivered this year to achieve this target. Africa would need an extra \$20 billion of the increase in ODA in 2010 in order to reach the Gleneagles target level of \$63 billion for the region by 2010. In 2007, ODA to the least developed countries was equivalent to 0.09 per cent of the gross national income of the countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), with less than half the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) countries meeting the 0.15 to 0.20 per cent target for aid to the least developed countries.

84. The distribution of development assistance remains highly skewed. Although the share of ODA flows allocated to the poorer countries increased somewhat between 2000 and 2007, with sub-Saharan Africa continuing to be the largest recipient of ODA, having more than doubled receipts in current dollar terms, most

of the increase in ODA since 2000 has been limited to a few post-conflict countries, including Iraq and Afghanistan. Together, these two countries received about a sixth of country allocations from DAC countries, even though they account for less than 2 per cent of the total population of the developing countries. African aid lags far behind commitments and far behind needs. Detailed analyses by the International Monetary Fund and UNDP have shown that highly worthy Millennium Development Goal-based programmes are unfunded because of non-delivery of promised donor funding.³⁵

85. There is an urgent need to improve the quality, predictability and durability of aid, in addition to the quantity. Developing countries and their partners will have to reduce the fragmentation of assistance and ensure that ODA supports national development strategies. Pooling of donor resources into multi-donor funds has proved time and again to be a fruitful approach, with great successes, for example, in the control of several infectious diseases. The 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action set out a number of principles and practices to enhance aid effectiveness which need to be implemented urgently. The \$20 billion over three years pledged for food security by the G-8 at L'Aquila, Italy, and the Group of Twenty (G-20) at Pittsburgh, United States of America, should be provided urgently to initiate implementation of the comprehensive plan of action for smallholder farmers, notably through the launch of a new multi-donor trust fund.

Trade and development

86. The failure to reach agreement in the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations represents a major gap in strengthening the global partnership for achieving the Millennium Development Goals by depriving developing countries of the benefits of more timely completion of a truly developmental round of negotiations. As currently envisaged, the Doha Round falls short of the original developmental promise that was intended. This would include effective market access for agricultural, manufactured and service exports, particularly in sectors and modes of supply of interest to the developing countries, including modes 1 (cross-border supply) and 4 (movement of natural persons), and removal of trade distorting agricultural subsidies. In the negotiations there has been some progress in reaching agreement on a range of hitherto intractable issues, but progress on other key issues, including implementation issues and concerns of developing countries, as well as special and differential treatment, is falling short of what had been envisioned. In addition, the process of accession to the World Trade Organization by developing countries and countries with economies in transition should be facilitated, consistent with World Trade Organization agreements and their development status.

87. There are large regional and sectoral variations in market-access conditions between developing countries and least developed countries, as well as among least developed countries. Generally, developing countries that do not fall into the category of least developed countries continue to face higher average tariffs than least developed countries for their exports, including agriculture, textiles and clothing. Since 2000, small-island and African least developed countries have gained substantial preferences in major markets for their exports, while Asian least

³⁵ United Nations Development Programme and International Monetary Fund, "Scaling up development assistance to Africa: the Gleneagles scenario approach" (2009).

developed countries, which tend to be more competitive, continue to face higher tariffs and receive lower duty-free access, especially on their clothing and textile exports. However, the preferential access of least developed countries, compared with all developing countries, continues to be eroded except in agricultural exports.

88. Aid for trade is also critical in helping least developed countries, which continue to experience difficulties in fully utilizing preferential schemes and in overcoming supply-side constraints. In 2007, total aid for trade commitments increased by 8 per cent from 2006 and by over 20 per cent from the 2002-2005 baseline; but more than half the amount was provided to only 11 countries.

89. Donors need to deliver on commitments to substantially increase technical, financial and political support for aid for trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework initiative. Aid for trade is especially vital to finance export-oriented infrastructure (e.g., roads, ports and power) to support the export competitiveness of low-income countries. Developed countries also need to honour the 2005 pledge to eliminate, by 2013, all export subsidies including on agriculture, which remain a major distortion affecting trade and farm production in developing countries. Even though overall agricultural support in relation to the GDP of developed countries declined further in 2007, it remained high in absolute terms and in relation to ODA.

90. Since late 2007, the multilateral trading system has come under heightened pressure as the food and financial crises have given rise to new waves of protectionism. It is crucial to maintain an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system during the crises by ensuring that protectionist measures are dismantled as soon as possible and that new measures, including new non-tariff barriers, are resisted.

Debt sustainability

91. Substantial progress has been made with regard to debt relief, but full delivery on the heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) initiative requires continued efforts from the international community. By September 2009, 35 out of 40 eligible countries had qualified for debt relief under the initiative, 26 of which had qualified for irrevocable debt relief under the HIPC Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief (MDR) initiative. The 35 qualifying countries have received, or are expected to receive, debt relief totalling \$57 billion under the HIPC initiative and \$23 billion in additional debt relief under the MDR initiative.

92. Prior to the global financial turmoil, high commodity prices and strong trade growth had improved the export revenues of many developing countries. Consequently, the burden of servicing external debt for the developing countries as a group had fallen from almost 13 per cent of export earnings in 2000 to below 4 per cent in 2007. This has allowed the HIPC countries to increase their social expenditure, but this trend is being reversed as developing country exports and commodity prices have fallen starkly as a consequence of the current crisis. The ratios of external debt to GDP and external debt service to exports for developing countries have risen significantly since the last quarter of 2008. Developing countries also face significant reversals in access to new external financing because of the global credit crunch.

93. The combination of these factors is creating increasing balance-of-payment problems for a large number of countries. Rising risk premiums on borrowing by

developing countries and currency depreciations are also increasing the cost of external public borrowing. This, in turn, is limiting the ability of developing countries to undertake countercyclical measures and to sustain adequate levels of public spending on infrastructure, education, health and social protection. In the light of the global crisis, measures such as additional concessional financing, standstills on debt obligations, debt relief and debt restructuring should be considered to help countries facing severe financial distress as a consequence of the crisis to avoid harsh domestic adjustments jeopardizing the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and avoid public indebtedness reaching unsustainable levels.

Access to affordable essential medicines

94. Many essential medicines are inaccessible to the poor in developing countries for two main reasons. Firstly, there are large gaps in the availability of medicines in both the public and private sectors; secondly, the prices of the medicines that are available are high in relation to their international reference prices. The multinational drug companies, based mostly in developed countries, should be encouraged to practise dual pricing policies, i.e., lower prices for developing countries.

95. Access to affordable essential medicines remains a concern, particularly as the response to outbreaks of contagious diseases and the development of resistant strains of infection create new difficulties. Basic packages of essential medical services require more adaptation to local needs, and better alignment to Millennium Development Goal health targets. The affordability of medicines is expected to deteriorate as a result of the global economic crisis. Incomes for many are falling and currency depreciations are further pushing up the cost of imported medicines. The situation is most difficult for countries with poorly funded or inefficiently run public sector procurement and distribution systems, countries where poorer households have no access to health insurance or public supplies of medicines, and countries where medicines are mostly brand names, rather than generic. Actions are needed to protect low-income families from increases in the cost of medicines brought about by the crisis.

Access to new technologies

96. Advances in technology provide an opportunity to accelerate poverty reduction through pathways not available to countries that developed earlier. Reducing the technology gap can accelerate leap-frogging to innovative and low-cost development solutions. Such technology facilitates communication and information exchange. Simple access to mobile telephones translates into reductions in mortality rates through provision of information about prevention and treatment and improvement of transport to vital interventions (such as emergency obstetric care), long-distance learning, better chances of survival and adaptation by sharing information on the location of pastures and water using mobile telephony, and empowerment of community health workers and other health personnel.

97. Considerable progress had been made in access to information and communications technologies, especially in cellular telephony, in recent years. Use of the Internet has increased steadily, with almost one fourth of the world's population having Internet access. However, less than 18 per cent of the population

in developing countries was using the Internet (and only 4 per cent in the least developed countries), compared with over 60 per cent in developed countries.³⁶ Greater efforts are needed, especially through strengthened public-private partnerships, to close the large gaps that remain in access and affordability across countries and income groups.

98. Addressing the challenges of climate change has necessitated further access to new technologies. For both climate change mitigation and adaptation, massive investments are needed in research, development and deployment of technologies.

IV. The way forward

99. The Millennium Development Goals work by engaging national and global society as a whole. The actions of individuals, organizations, private companies and Governments in the cause of international development cooperation should be guided by the key principles set out below:

Guiding principles for an action agenda

1. National ownership and leadership complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies that align with national priorities and respect national sovereignty are essential.
2. The interdependence of human rights, gender equality, governance, development and peace and security must be recognized to attain success and sustainability.
3. The need to look at the Millennium Development Goals through a gender lens is critical, since women and girls typically face the greatest burdens of extreme poverty, hunger and disease. All of the action areas need to include specific strategies for tackling challenges faced by girls and women. On top of this, critical actions are needed to focus on overarching priorities for gender equality, including challenges of women's political representation and the intolerable ongoing epidemic of violence against women.
4. The norms and values embedded in the Millennium Declaration and international human rights instruments must continue to provide the foundation for engagement, in particular the key human rights principles of non-discrimination, meaningful participation and accountability.
5. The need to empower the poor through scaled-up efforts focused on citizen monitoring of Millennium Development Goal delivery, capacity-building and improving access to financial and legal services remains crucial.

Action-oriented agenda for all stakeholders

Creating the policy and fiscal space to accelerate and sustain progress

100. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals will need accelerated interventions in key areas. These interventions should be framed within the broader

³⁶ International Telecommunication Union, *World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database*, 2007 and 2008.

development framework of national development strategies for long-term equitable and sustainable growth and structural change. The immediate priority would be to ensure the sustainability of economic recovery, rising rural productivity and decent work generation in a period in which economic growth is likely to be slower than before the current crisis.

101. National Governments, with the full involvement of civil society organizations and supported by the international community must take urgent measures to implement growth and trade strategies enabling accelerated reduction in poverty, inequality and marginalization. This means promoting the fiscal space for delivery of key public services and long-term public investments in infrastructure, agriculture and human skills. It also means re-examination of prevailing macroeconomic frameworks, particularly to restore national capabilities to minimize the adverse effects of capital mobility, which has severely undermined domestic resource mobilization and monetary and exchange rate management. Without sustained employment and income growth, all measured Millennium Development Goal progress will prove to be short lived.

102. Financial sector policies must be supportive of accelerating proven interventions in addition to seeking stability through prudential regulations. These policies should also promote financial inclusion and may include specialized financial institutions and incentives for financial institutions to cater to small and medium-sized enterprises, poor populations, agriculture and non-farm activities. Inclusive finance will involve a continuum of affordable financial services (savings, loans, payments, receipts and insurance) available to poor households to improve their standards of living, and for enterprises to grow. Trade and industry policies should support dynamic sectors and activities in terms of productivity growth and creation of decent jobs characterized by high wages and employment security.

103. Progress must be protected in an era of increased economic insecurity arising from global economic instability, volatile food prices, natural disasters and health epidemics. This requires universal social protection and measures to support the most vulnerable communities. There should be effective measures to address all forms of discrimination and social exclusion including through legislative and enforcement measures, awareness campaigns and social mobilization.

Expanded global partnership to support the Millennium Development Goal agenda

104. Working in partnership with all stakeholders, the international community must support national development strategies, expand national policy space, accelerate investment in developing countries, minimize the likelihood of crisis and conflict and substantially improve the international response to humanitarian, rehabilitation and recovery needs, and encourage and sustain reforms for a more conducive international environment for development. In the coming months, concrete steps will be taken at all levels to improve coordination and management in support of the Millennium Development Goals. United Nations country teams, central to the United Nations country efforts, will be tasked to support the overall and sector-specific Millennium Development Goal plans of Member States.

105. Millennium Development Goal interventions along the lines outlined above will require expanded fiscal and institutional capacity at all levels in both donor and recipient circles, and rigorous public-private management systems to ensure that the

money gets to the right place, at the right time and for the right uses. For several Millennium Development Goals, despite knowledge of what effective interventions are required, there have been shortfalls in the financing and management needed for effective implementation.

106. Raising resources to finance the Millennium Development Goals should start at home. Therefore, effective and innovative measures to raise domestic revenues in a sustainable manner and to efficiently allocate these resources for development are essential. Most importantly, the international community should intensify international tax cooperation, respecting the sovereign right of countries and enabling them to raise considerably greater domestic fiscal resources. The onus of responsibility falls most heavily on the OECD economies, which should not only support domestic financial resource mobilization in developing countries, but also reform international economic relations to enhance financing for development by ensuring developmental reforms in the areas of international investment, international trade, aid, debt and systemic reform as promised by the Monterrey Consensus and reiterated in the 2008 Doha Declaration.³⁷

107. The community of donors must deliver on its existing promises of greatly expanded ODA, while enhancing aid effectiveness and eliminating onerous conditionalities. If these promises are not met, the poor will suffer and, indeed, die in large numbers. Honouring commitments by the rich countries is a bulwark of global solidarity and a sine qua non for success in implementing the Millennium Development Goals in the low-income countries.

108. In the past few months, several Governments have put forth promising proposals to ensure adequate financing for the Millennium Development Goals, including the call for new financing to build better health systems, the G-8 2009 L'Aquila food security initiative and the associated call for financing a multi-donor trust fund, which could support millions of farm families seeking to enhance food productivity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change mitigation and adaptation funds and others. These opportunities must be acted upon quickly to ensure that longstanding international commitments are kept by the time of the 2010 G-8 and G-20 summits in Canada.

109. At the same time, there is a need to look beyond traditional ODA to more innovative financing models that can increase financial flows and their predictability. Several new programmes, schemes and models are promising, and should be urgently considered for scale-up opportunities. Private philanthropy for the Millennium Development Goals has also grown considerably in recent years and proven effective in mobilizing support from individuals and supplementing available financing to achieve the Goals.

110. Developed countries must also live up to their promises by eliminating trade-distorting agricultural subsidies and finally giving genuinely unrestricted market access to developing countries to help them lift themselves out of poverty.

111. The time has come for an accountability mechanism between developed and developing countries (as agreed in the Monterrey Consensus and the Accra Plan of Action), and between Governments and their citizens, to ensure that Millennium Development Goal commitments are honoured. The 2010 high-level plenary

³⁷ General Assembly resolution 63/239, annex.

meeting should be an occasion for endorsement of an accountability framework that consolidates global commitments, links them to results with timelines, and establishes monitoring and enforcing mechanisms.

Harnessing private sector potential for sustainable development

112. Harnessing private sector potential begins with the farmer in the rural village, who is the backbone of the private sector in his or her country. It extends all the way to the major multinational companies that often operate in more than 100 countries around the world. The private sector often plays the central role in economic development, but can play that role effectively only when the public sector is doing its job as well: in regulation, public investments in key infrastructure such as roads and power, and the provision of public services such as education and health.

113. Many businesses are already taking specific action in support of the Millennium Development Goals — assisting in poverty reduction, food security, environmental stewardship, gender equality, health care and education through their core business operations, social investments and advocacy. Beyond responsible practices, business should think of new and creative ways of working with and investing in pro-poor business models, products and services that can bring about thriving markets.

114. The United Nations Global Compact, in which the world's major companies are committed to global social responsibility, will this year take on the Millennium Development Goals as a central focus of its participating companies. These companies will share technologies, business models, outreach strategies and skilled managers towards the scaling-up of Millennium Development Goal initiatives in many parts of the world. At its high-level meeting, the United Nations will release a framework for strategic business action in support of the Millennium Development Goals. It will also call on companies to align their social investments with development in general and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in particular. Many are already partners in the Millennium Villages and related programmes. Many more companies can and will join the global Millennium Development Goal effort.

115. The Millennium Development Goals have triggered the largest cooperative effort in world history to fight poverty, hunger and disease. They have become a rallying cry in poor and rich countries alike, and a standard for non-governmental organizations and corporations as well. Nearly 10 years after they were adopted, they are alive and stronger than ever, which is a rarity among global goals. The world wants them to work.

116. The shortfalls in progress towards the Millennium Development Goals are not because they are unreachable or because the time is too short, but rather because of unmet commitments, inadequate resources, lack of focus and accountability, and insufficient interest in sustainable development. This has resulted in failure to deliver on the necessary finance, services, technical support and partnerships. As a consequence of these shortfalls, aggravated by the global food and economic crises as well as the failure of various development policies and programmes, improvements in the lives of the poor have been unacceptably slow to achieve, while some hard won gains are being eroded.

117. The Millennium Development Goals represent a pact, not just among Governments, but also among all development stakeholders. Each actor must focus on the best use of its assets, acting efficiently, effectively and collectively to fulfil a specific role, as follows:

(a) Developing countries: establish policies and institutions to achieve the Goals, involving administrations, communities and citizens towards this end. Through South-South cooperation, they also need to pledge to help other developing countries through the transfer of knowledge, technology and resources;

(b) Civil society actors, including those ensuring Government accountability and those delivering services: commit to the Millennium Development Goal agenda;

(c) Private businesses: disseminate technologies, create decent employment and otherwise work to support the goals;

(d) Private philanthropy: provide a catalytic role in fostering new innovations for later adoption by the public sector and through public-private partnerships;

(e) Developed countries: fulfil existing commitments to increase the quantity and improve the effectiveness of development assistance and improve market access for developing countries' exports;

(f) The multilateral system, including the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes: improve its coherence and effectiveness in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

118. Ten years have passed since the adoption of the Millennium Declaration and the historical commitment to cut extreme poverty by half through the implementation of eight measurable and time-bound goals: the Millennium Development Goals. This vision and those measures remain relevant today. Our world possesses the knowledge and the resources to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and embrace a sustainable development process for a brighter, more secure and more prosperous future for all. Coming together in September with a renewed commitment to build on our achievements so far and to bridge the gaps identified, we can deliver on our shared responsibility to build a better world for generations to come.

119. The United Nations has affirmed the right to development in addition to the other economic, social and cultural rights stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The rights approach affirms human rights to social protection and rejection of social exclusion, thus contributing to overall security and well-being. Fulfilling the rights of each and every citizen requires adequate resources. The Millennium Development Goal framework has identified stakeholders and duty-bearers with well-defined responsibilities, establishing accountability for development outcomes.

120. In recent decades, Government resources for development have often become increasingly constrained, while the private sector has taken over many areas of service and utility provision. New and innovative instruments are being promoted to finance development needs, including through multi-donor trust funds such as the L'Aquila food security initiative. However, the promise of delivering adequate aid remains unfulfilled, while the urgency to ensure that the international financial and trading systems support development has heightened in the wake of the current

global crisis; hence, ensuring the adequacy of resources is the major challenge in achieving development, including the Millennium Development Goals.

121. We must not fail the billions who look to the international community to fulfil the promise of the Millennium Declaration for a better world. Let us meet in September to keep the promise.

Annex

Suggested themes for the round tables

Poverty, hunger and gender equality

1. How can we better support and facilitate employment-intensive, sustained and equitable growth and structural change?
2. How can we support holistic community-led approaches to achieve the synergies of the Millennium Development Goals?
3. How can international commitments support national efforts to raise agricultural output in order to overcome hunger and ensure food security?
4. How can we ensure that new and existing commitments, by all stakeholders, are adequately monitored and met?
5. What institutional reforms and commitments are required to overcome gender inequality and the main obstacles to women's empowerment?
6. How can Governments be supported to expand social protection systems where they indicate this is a priority?

Health and education

1. How do we enhance access to public health care?
2. What cost-effective key interventions in health are needed, especially to improve maternal health? How can national policies and international partnerships overcome the current institutional and resource constraints?
3. What are the best strategies to overcome institutional and resource deficiencies in achieving education for all?
4. How can we ensure that new and existing commitments, by all stakeholders, are adequately monitored and met?

Promoting sustainable development

1. What are the most cost-effective national policies to increase the availability of safe drinking water on a sustainable basis and to improve sanitation?
2. What international partnerships and resources are needed to support national efforts?
3. What are the most cost-effective ways of improving the welfare of slum-dwellers and of ensuring their access to basic services on a sustainable basis?
4. What institutions and reforms will protect biodiversity and forest cover?
5. How can we ensure that new and existing commitments, by all stakeholders, are adequately monitored and met?

Widening and strengthening partnerships

1. How do we ensure that aid commitments are met and what else can be done to improve aid predictability?

2. How do we ensure debt sustainability through enhanced international cooperation? What are the best ways to facilitate debt relief and debt workouts?
3. How do we ensure that the Doha Round of World Trade Organization trade negotiations realizes its development promise?
4. How do we ensure easier and cheaper access to medicines and new agricultural and renewable energy technology?
5. How can stakeholders work more effectively together to prevent conflict and armed violence and to strengthen the rule of law, justice and security?
6. How can we ensure that new and existing commitments, by all stakeholders, are adequately monitored and met?

Addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable

1. What more should be done to address the special needs of the poorest countries?
2. What should be done to better identify and address the special needs of the most vulnerable countries, communities and people?
3. What can be done to break the cycle of poverty, political and economic exclusion and civil violence?
4. What is the developmental potential of humanitarian, disaster relief and peacebuilding efforts?
5. How can we ensure that new and existing commitments, by all stakeholders, are adequately monitored and met?

Addressing emerging issues and evolving approaches

1. What are the most effective measures to enhance food security?
2. How should climate change mitigation and adaptation be incorporated into broader efforts to enhance sustainable development?
3. How can financing be ensured for global public goods, including meeting existing commitments on financing for development and new challenges such as climate change?
4. How should the international community address new emerging issues that are intimately linked with the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, such as security, armed violence, migration and others?
5. How should the international financial system be reformed to better support sustainable and equitable development?
6. How should the international community reform international economic governance to better support sustainable and equitable development?
7. How can we ensure that new and existing commitments, by all stakeholders, are adequately monitored and met?



General Assembly

Distr.: General
18 September 2000

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 60 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/55/L.2)]

55/2. United Nations Millennium Declaration

The General Assembly

Adopts the following Declaration:

United Nations Millennium Declaration

I. Values and principles

1. We, heads of State and Government, have gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 6 to 8 September 2000, at the dawn of a new millennium, to reaffirm our faith in the Organization and its Charter as indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world.
2. We recognize that, in addition to our separate responsibilities to our individual societies, we have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level. As leaders we have a duty therefore to all the world's people, especially the most vulnerable and, in particular, the children of the world, to whom the future belongs.
3. We reaffirm our commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which have proved timeless and universal. Indeed, their relevance and capacity to inspire have increased, as nations and peoples have become increasingly interconnected and interdependent.
4. We are determined to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter. We rededicate ourselves to support all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, respect for their territorial integrity and political independence, resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, the right to self-determination of peoples which remain under colonial domination and foreign occupation, non-interference in the internal affairs of States, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the equal rights of all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion and international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character.

5. We believe that the central challenge we face today is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people. For while globalization offers great opportunities, at present its benefits are very unevenly shared, while its costs are unevenly distributed. We recognize that developing countries and countries with economies in transition face special difficulties in responding to this central challenge. Thus, only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future, based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable. These efforts must include policies and measures, at the global level, which correspond to the needs of developing countries and economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation.
6. We consider certain fundamental values to be essential to international relations in the twenty-first century. These include:
 - **Freedom.** Men and women have the right to live their lives and raise their children in dignity, free from hunger and from the fear of violence, oppression or injustice. Democratic and participatory governance based on the will of the people best assures these rights.
 - **Equality.** No individual and no nation must be denied the opportunity to benefit from development. The equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured.
 - **Solidarity.** Global challenges must be managed in a way that distributes the costs and burdens fairly in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice. Those who suffer or who benefit least deserve help from those who benefit most.
 - **Tolerance.** Human beings must respect one other, in all their diversity of belief, culture and language. Differences within and between societies should be neither feared nor repressed, but cherished as a precious asset of humanity. A culture of peace and dialogue among all civilizations should be actively promoted.
 - **Respect for nature.** Prudence must be shown in the management of all living species and natural resources, in accordance with the precepts of sustainable development. Only in this way can the immeasurable riches provided to us by nature be preserved and passed on to our descendants. The current unsustainable patterns of production and consumption must be changed in the interest of our future welfare and that of our descendants.
 - **Shared responsibility.** Responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally. As the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role.
7. In order to translate these shared values into actions, we have identified key objectives to which we assign special significance.

II. Peace, security and disarmament

8. We will spare no effort to free our peoples from the scourge of war, whether within or between States, which has claimed more than 5 million lives in the

past decade. We will also seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction.

9. We resolve therefore:

- To strengthen respect for the rule of law in international as in national affairs and, in particular, to ensure compliance by Member States with the decisions of the International Court of Justice, in compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, in cases to which they are parties.
- To make the United Nations more effective in maintaining peace and security by giving it the resources and tools it needs for conflict prevention, peaceful resolution of disputes, peacekeeping, post-conflict peace-building and reconstruction. In this context, we take note of the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations¹ and request the General Assembly to consider its recommendations expeditiously.
- To strengthen cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter.
- To ensure the implementation, by States Parties, of treaties in areas such as arms control and disarmament and of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and call upon all States to consider signing and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.²
- To take concerted action against international terrorism, and to accede as soon as possible to all the relevant international conventions.
- To redouble our efforts to implement our commitment to counter the world drug problem.
- To intensify our efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking as well as smuggling in human beings and money laundering.
- To minimize the adverse effects of United Nations economic sanctions on innocent populations, to subject such sanctions regimes to regular reviews and to eliminate the adverse effects of sanctions on third parties.
- To strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers.
- To take concerted action to end illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons, especially by making arms transfers more transparent and supporting regional disarmament measures, taking account of all the recommendations of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons.
- To call on all States to consider acceding to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and

¹ A/55/305-S/2000/809; see *Official Records of the Security Council, Fifty-fifth Year, Supplement for July, August and September 2000*, document S/2000/809.

² A/CONF.183/9.

on Their Destruction,³ as well as the amended mines protocol to the Convention on conventional weapons.⁴

10. We urge Member States to observe the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, now and in the future, and to support the International Olympic Committee in its efforts to promote peace and human understanding through sport and the Olympic Ideal.

III. Development and poverty eradication

11. We will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected. We are committed to making the right to development a reality for everyone and to freeing the entire human race from want.
12. We resolve therefore to create an environment – at the national and global levels alike – which is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty.
13. Success in meeting these objectives depends, *inter alia*, on good governance within each country. It also depends on good governance at the international level and on transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems. We are committed to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system.
14. We are concerned about the obstacles developing countries face in mobilizing the resources needed to finance their sustained development. We will therefore make every effort to ensure the success of the High-level International and Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development, to be held in 2001.
15. We also undertake to address the special needs of the least developed countries. In this context, we welcome the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in May 2001 and will endeavour to ensure its success. We call on the industrialized countries:
 - To adopt, preferably by the time of that Conference, a policy of duty- and quota-free access for essentially all exports from the least developed countries;
 - To implement the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries without further delay and to agree to cancel all official bilateral debts of those countries in return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction; and
 - To grant more generous development assistance, especially to countries that are genuinely making an effort to apply their resources to poverty reduction.
16. We are also determined to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term.

³ See CD/1478.

⁴ Amended protocol on prohibitions or restrictions on the use of mines, booby-traps and other devices (CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B).

17. We also resolve to address the special needs of small island developing States, by implementing the Barbados Programme of Action⁵ and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly rapidly and in full. We urge the international community to ensure that, in the development of a vulnerability index, the special needs of small island developing States are taken into account.
18. We recognize the special needs and problems of the landlocked developing countries, and urge both bilateral and multilateral donors to increase financial and technical assistance to this group of countries to meet their special development needs and to help them overcome the impediments of geography by improving their transit transport systems.
19. We resolve further:
 - To halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger and, by the same date, to halve the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water.
 - To ensure that, by the same date, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education.
 - By the same date, to have reduced maternal mortality by three quarters, and under-five child mortality by two thirds, of their current rates.
 - To have, by then, halted, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS, the scourge of malaria and other major diseases that afflict humanity.
 - To provide special assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS.
 - By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers as proposed in the "Cities Without Slums" initiative.
20. We also resolve:
 - To promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable.
 - To develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work.
 - To encourage the pharmaceutical industry to make essential drugs more widely available and affordable by all who need them in developing countries.
 - To develop strong partnerships with the private sector and with civil society organizations in pursuit of development and poverty eradication.

⁵ Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II).

- To ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, in conformity with recommendations contained in the ECOSOC 2000 Ministerial Declaration,⁶ are available to all.

IV. Protecting our common environment

21. We must spare no effort to free all of humanity, and above all our children and grandchildren, from the threat of living on a planet irredeemably spoilt by human activities, and whose resources would no longer be sufficient for their needs.
22. We reaffirm our support for the principles of sustainable development, including those set out in Agenda 21,⁷ agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.
23. We resolve therefore to adopt in all our environmental actions a new ethic of conservation and stewardship and, as first steps, we resolve:
 - To make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases.
 - To intensify our collective efforts for the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.
 - To press for the full implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁸ and the Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa.⁹
 - To stop the unsustainable exploitation of water resources by developing water management strategies at the regional, national and local levels, which promote both equitable access and adequate supplies.
 - To intensify cooperation to reduce the number and effects of natural and man-made disasters.
 - To ensure free access to information on the human genome sequence.

V. Human rights, democracy and good governance

24. We will spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.
25. We resolve therefore:

⁶ E/2000/L.9.

⁷ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

⁸ See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

⁹ A/49/84/Add.2, annex, appendix II.

- To respect fully and uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.¹⁰
- To strive for the full protection and promotion in all our countries of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for all.
- To strengthen the capacity of all our countries to implement the principles and practices of democracy and respect for human rights, including minority rights.
- To combat all forms of violence against women and to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.¹¹
- To take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies.
- To work collectively for more inclusive political processes, allowing genuine participation by all citizens in all our countries.
- To ensure the freedom of the media to perform their essential role and the right of the public to have access to information.

VI. Protecting the vulnerable

26. We will spare no effort to ensure that children and all civilian populations that suffer disproportionately the consequences of natural disasters, genocide, armed conflicts and other humanitarian emergencies are given every assistance and protection so that they can resume normal life as soon as possible.

We resolve therefore:

- To expand and strengthen the protection of civilians in complex emergencies, in conformity with international humanitarian law.
- To strengthen international cooperation, including burden sharing in, and the coordination of humanitarian assistance to, countries hosting refugees and to help all refugees and displaced persons to return voluntarily to their homes, in safety and dignity and to be smoothly reintegrated into their societies.
- To encourage the ratification and full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child¹² and its optional protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.¹³

VII. Meeting the special needs of Africa

27. We will support the consolidation of democracy in Africa and assist Africans in their struggle for lasting peace, poverty eradication and sustainable development, thereby bringing Africa into the mainstream of the world economy.

¹⁰ Resolution 217 A (III).

¹¹ Resolution 34/180, annex.

¹² Resolution 44/25, annex.

¹³ Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

28. We resolve therefore:

- To give full support to the political and institutional structures of emerging democracies in Africa.
- To encourage and sustain regional and subregional mechanisms for preventing conflict and promoting political stability, and to ensure a reliable flow of resources for peacekeeping operations on the continent.
- To take special measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including debt cancellation, improved market access, enhanced Official Development Assistance and increased flows of Foreign Direct Investment, as well as transfers of technology.
- To help Africa build up its capacity to tackle the spread of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other infectious diseases.

VIII. Strengthening the United Nations

29. We will spare no effort to make the United Nations a more effective instrument for pursuing all of these priorities: the fight for development for all the peoples of the world, the fight against poverty, ignorance and disease; the fight against injustice; the fight against violence, terror and crime; and the fight against the degradation and destruction of our common home.

30. We resolve therefore:

- To reaffirm the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policy-making and representative organ of the United Nations, and to enable it to play that role effectively.
- To intensify our efforts to achieve a comprehensive reform of the Security Council in all its aspects.
- To strengthen further the Economic and Social Council, building on its recent achievements, to help it fulfil the role ascribed to it in the Charter.
- To strengthen the International Court of Justice, in order to ensure justice and the rule of law in international affairs.
- To encourage regular consultations and coordination among the principal organs of the United Nations in pursuit of their functions.
- To ensure that the Organization is provided on a timely and predictable basis with the resources it needs to carry out its mandates.
- To urge the Secretariat to make the best use of those resources, in accordance with clear rules and procedures agreed by the General Assembly, in the interests of all Member States, by adopting the best management practices and technologies available and by concentrating on those tasks that reflect the agreed priorities of Member States.
- To promote adherence to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel.¹⁴

¹⁴ Resolution 49/59, annex.

- To ensure greater policy coherence and better cooperation between the United Nations, its agencies, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organization, as well as other multilateral bodies, with a view to achieving a fully coordinated approach to the problems of peace and development.
 - To strengthen further cooperation between the United Nations and national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in various fields, including peace and security, economic and social development, international law and human rights and democracy and gender issues.
 - To give greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society, in general, to contribute to the realization of the Organization's goals and programmes.
31. We request the General Assembly to review on a regular basis the progress made in implementing the provisions of this Declaration, and ask the Secretary-General to issue periodic reports for consideration by the General Assembly and as a basis for further action.
 32. We solemnly reaffirm, on this historic occasion, that the United Nations is the indispensable common house of the entire human family, through which we will seek to realize our universal aspirations for peace, cooperation and development. We therefore pledge our unstinting support for these common objectives and our determination to achieve them.

*8th plenary meeting
8 September 2000*



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26 February 2010

Excellency,

I write with reference to my letter of 29 January 2010 on the preparatory process for the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the MDGs.

I have requested the co-facilitators, H.E. Mr. Carsten Staur, Permanent Representative of Denmark and H.E. Mr. Paul Badji, Permanent Representative of Senegal, to plan a series of interactive sessions with Member States in order to prepare for the negotiations of a concise and action oriented outcome document as requested in General Assembly Resolution 64/184. The objective of these interactive meetings will be to engage in a conversation with a wide array of actors on successes, best practices, lessons learned, obstacles, gaps, challenges and opportunities in achieving all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

To start the process, to which I attach great importance, I would like to invite you to an informal plenary meeting on Thursday, 4 March 2010 from 10 am to 1 pm in Conference Room 3(TNLB). The Deputy Secretary-General and the two co-facilitators will offer their initial views on the process leading up to the High-Level Plenary Meeting.

I look forward to your participation and active involvement.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Abdussalam Treki', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ali Abdussalam Treki

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

22 March 2010

Excellency,

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 64/184, I am honoured to inform you that I intend to arrange, in consultation with representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society and the private sector, two days of informal interactive hearings on 14 and 15 June 2010 with non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to provide an input to the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs in September 2010. Member States are encouraged to actively participate in the hearings at the ambassadorial level to facilitate interaction between the Member States and the representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector.

Moreover, and as further requested by the General Assembly in resolution 64/184, the Secretary-General announced in his Note Verbale of 8 March 2010 the establishment of a trust fund to enhance the participation in the hearings of representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations from developing countries and he called upon Member States to support this fund generously and speedily.

In this regard, I am hopeful that your Government will be able to make a generous contribution to the **Trust Fund in Support of Non-Governmental and Civil Society Organizations** in order to facilitate this critical exercise. The contributions will be used to enable non-governmental and civil society organizations from developing countries, particularly Least Developed Countries, to contribute to the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs, as well as to participate in the High-level Plenary Meeting in September.

I look forward to your support and active participation and involvement.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Abdussalam Treki', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ali Abdussalam Treki

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York



21 April 2010

Excellency,

We are writing to you in connection with the next General Assembly formal meeting on the outcome of the 2010 MDG High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly (20-22 September 2010), which is scheduled for Thursday, 29 April 2010 from 3-6 p.m. in conference room 4 in the North Lawn Building.

As you are aware, we have had a series of very useful General Assembly interactive sessions involving the UN system, the private sector and foundations, academia and civil society. These sessions were enriching and highlighted the strong interests in the MDG Summit by all stakeholders. We now need to get into the core area of our responsibility as co-facilitators which is to facilitate the adoption of a concise action-oriented outcome document. We are very heartened and encouraged by the process thus far and the various informal contacts we have had with individuals and organizations which are engaged in the preparations of the Summit. These informal contacts suggest to us that there is a shared vision among all stakeholders that we need to ensure that the summit becomes a turning point in MDG achievement and brings us back on track to meet the MDGs by our commonly agreed deadline of 2015.

We also have the report of the Secretary-General (A/64/665) 'Keeping the Promise: A forward looking review to promote an agreed action agenda to achieve the MDGs by 2015'. The rich suggestions contained in the report and the positive feedback of Member States to the report at its launch on 16 March 2010 by the Secretary-General offer great potential for our future work. As we progress on the path of discussing the Summit outcome, we will also receive several other reports, not only those which have been mandated in the General Assembly resolution 64/184, but also reports which have been prepared by UN entities as well as others with suggestions on how we can imbue the

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

outcome document with actionable proposals. The informal interactive hearings with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, scheduled for 14-15 June 2010, will also be an important part of the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting.

Through these various inputs into our preparatory process, it is very clear to us that first and foremost, Member States and other stakeholders would like to see a clearly defined action agenda for the poor and most vulnerable, which will make a significant difference in their lives as we meet the targets of the MDGs by 2015. Many Member States have emphasized the need to focus on distinct and specific actions which are targeted and which will lead to monitorable progress in the MDGs everywhere. We have also heard repeatedly the opportunity that the High-level Plenary Meeting in September 2010 offers in re-energizing the political commitment and spurring collective actions. We have been reminded of the deep interconnectedness of the MDGs and the need to make simultaneous progress across the board.

The preliminary information before us points to a mixed report card for progress since the Millennium Declaration. It is quite clear to us that while there are several success stories which suggest that we can still achieve the MDGs by the agreed 2015 target date, the various crises that have visited us over the past few years, the challenges of climate change and other emerging challenges are setting current efforts back. It seems to us that there is a strong sentiment for taking very urgent action for the poorest and the most vulnerable, no matter where they live. There is also a need to meet special needs of conflict and post-conflict countries and those who are recovering from natural disasters.

Our interactions with various stakeholders have helped us tease out the best practices and the lessons learnt, not only in national policy but also in strengthening international cooperation for development. All our interlocutors have so far emphasized the need to strengthen partnership and to build on the success stories not only relating to policies, but also relating to institutional reform and financial support. It is our hope that we will be able in the summit outcome to bring many of these elements together in a way which makes a rousing appeal to deliver on our promise to the poor and will guarantee and protect the gains appropriately.

It is with these thoughts that we write to you to suggest that the meeting on 29 April 2010 will be an opportunity for all of us to reflect on what we envisage for the concise action-oriented outcome as set out in General resolution 64/184. To help guide the discussions in our next meeting, we would suggest that delegations focus their interventions in responding to the following questions:

1. What should be the structure of the outcome document?
2. What should be the overall message of the outcome document in terms of the progress made to date as well as major remaining challenges and obstacles?

3. How should we define the action agenda to achieve the MDGs by 2015 and should this be structured around the eight MDGs?
4. How will we define the clear and targeted interventions which we hope will make a change in the current trajectory of achievements?
5. How should we reflect the need to transform or adjust policies, institutions and financial support in order to deliver on the promise of 2015?

We would like to propose that once we have your views on these basic issues, we will propose a draft structure of the outcome document drawing on your comments and on the findings of the report of the Secretary-General for the High-Level Plenary Meeting. Following the circulation of the draft structure, we would value your views on this proposal and get from you more details on the elements that you would like to see under the broad structure headings of the outcome document. On the basis of this preliminary work, we would then start an earnest process of presenting a full fledged draft for your consideration and establish a work plan for consultations on the document, taking into account the large number of other negotiating processes including UN system-wide coherence, the work of the ad hoc open-ended working group to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, and the upcoming 2010 ECOSOC substantive session.

We look forward to your effective participation on this very important task that lies in front of us.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



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Co-Facilitator
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Senegal
to the United Nations



H.E. Mr. Casten Staur
Co-Facilitator
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Denmark
to the United Nations



14 May 2010

Excellency,

We continue to be encouraged by the positive engagement of Member States in the informal consultations on an outcome document for the High Level Plenary Meeting (HLPM) on the MDGs in September. We are also appreciative of the wide expressions of trust in the co-facilitators as we advance the work in this regard.

As indicated during our last informal meeting on 11 May, we have the pleasure of forwarding a slightly modified draft structure of the HLPM outcome document which takes into account the rich suggestions and discussions at the meeting. You will agree that this is not a negotiated structure but a starting point of our work. Member States will have the opportunity to make the necessary adjustments, inclusions and exclusions when we start negotiations on the basis of a draft that many of you have asked us to present by the end of May. We thank you for this mandate and are writing to seek your suggestions for preparing the first draft.

We thus invite delegations to send us proposals which, if they so wish, could elaborate on some or all the elements of the attached draft structure. We would be particularly appreciative of written proposals on targeted actions for the achievement of the MDGs. We would welcome your written comments by Tuesday, 25 May 2010. Such contributions would assist us as facilitators in drawing up a draft outcome, which can be made available to all delegations by the end of this month.

Our next meeting on Wednesday, May 19 from 3-6 pm in the General Assembly Hall, would also provide us with another good opportunity to hear each others preliminary views and concrete suggestions on the substantive content for the draft text.

The draft which we will prepare will also draw on your oral comments and written proposals until now, on our discussions during the General Assembly interactive sessions on the MDGs with the different stakeholders and on substantive inputs provided by the UN system. To help you in the preparations of your contributions we attach a sample which provides an indication of the level of detail we are hoping to receive, given our shared ambition for a concise and action-oriented document. The sample text is not meant to be a facilitators' substantive proposal on the issue of poverty and hunger; it is only a demonstration of the format which we are considering.

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New York

In response to questions raised regarding the Summit side events, we wish to inform you that the focal point for side events during the HLPM will be Mr. Donald Lee, Officer-in-Charge, Communications and Information Management Service of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. He may be contacted by e-mail at hlpmevents@un.org or by telephone at 212-963-8762. We have also been informed that the United Nations will launch a Summit website in the near future where all Summit related information will be posted. This would also include MDG related events in New York and elsewhere.

We are also attaching a preliminary consultation schedule for the months of May-June 2010. As stated at the outset our intention is to complete the consultations by the end of July to allow sufficient time for Heads of State to review the document and endorse it at the Summit. A consultation schedule for the month of July will be made available later.

To help you plan for the Summit itself, in cooperation with the President of the General Assembly, we intend to organize a meeting on organizational aspects of the Summit in June 2010. The time and venue of this meeting will be announced in the UN Journal.

We look forward to your further comments and suggestions.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



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31 May 2010

Excellency,

It is a pleasure for us to forward to you, as requested, a first draft of an outcome document for the 2010 High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals. In producing this document, we benefited greatly from your detailed oral statements and written comments. We have prepared a fourteen page document, in line with the request for a concise text in General Assembly resolution 64/184.

Our next informal meeting is on Monday, 7 June 2010 in conference room 2 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. We hope that the timely issuance of this draft will give Member States sufficient time to prepare for these informals. We are expecting to hear from you reactions on the draft, and suggestions for the further programme of work, including negotiation modalities.

We look forward to your continued engagement in this important exercise.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

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KEEPING THE PROMISE –

UNITED TO ACHIEVE THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1. We, heads of State and Government, have gathered at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, mindful of the solemn promises which we made at the dawn of the new millennium, to reaffirm our commitment to work together for a better world. Our community of nations and peoples has witnessed dramatic changes since we last convened here in 2005 to reinforce our resolve.
2. We recognize that in the global fight against poverty and inequality, and for a more prosperous and sustainable future for all, awareness and engagement have scaled new heights. With this have come deeply inspiring examples of progress from every region, including through new forms of solidarity, partnerships and action.
3. We also recognize that we confront formidable new and emerging challenges. From the food, fuel, financial and economic crises of the past few years to the continuing process of climate change that today looms before us as one of the more profound threats to our planet and its inhabitants.
4. We note with concern that the crises have brought setbacks in progress, enhanced social tensions and increased vulnerability in countries and communities, especially among the poor and the marginalized. Yet, the current crises have not shaken our confidence in our shared purposes, principles and values. Our shared vision of development and the urgency to take decisive action to make the Millennium Development Goals a reality for all is more important than ever.
5. We are determined to use this Summit to create a new foundation for development as a centrepiece of our cooperation and collective efforts in the years ahead. We reaffirm that in these endeavours we will be guided by all the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and by full respect for the principles of international law.
6. We emphasize the vital role played by the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives. The Millennium Development Goals are among the most visible expression of these objectives and have generated real and important gains for people everywhere. Many challenges remain.
7. We will make every effort for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals and to this end agree on an “Action Agenda for Achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015”, clearly focused on the poor and most vulnerable people in all countries, in particular developing countries.
8. We believe that, with our renewed commitment and intensified collective action by all stakeholders, and through appropriate policies, strengthened institutions, adequate resources and investment, and a strong global partnership for development, the Millennium Development Goals remain achievable, even in the poorest countries.

9. We reaffirm national ownership and leadership, as paramount and indispensable in the development process. We recognize that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that national ownership, national policies, domestic resources and development strategies are the key for achieving all the goals. At the same time, we recognize that with the interrelated global challenges and crises and constrained fiscal and policy space, national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment.

10. We acknowledge that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger.

11. We reaffirm that peace and security, development and human rights and fundamental freedom for all are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and that development, peace and security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

12. We reaffirm that the United Nations, on the strength of its universal membership, legitimacy and comprehensive mandate, must play a vital role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals. We recognize that in a changing global environment the United Nations needs strengthened capabilities and capacities to fully implement its mandates and to ensure the effective delivery of its activities for development.

13. We recognize that all the Millennium Development Goals are interconnected and mutually reinforcing and can therefore be best achieved when pursued in a holistic and comprehensive manner.

14. We acknowledge the diversity of the world and recognize that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of human kind.

15. We call on non-governmental organizations, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders at the local, national, regional and global level to join us in redoubling efforts to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals are met by 2015.

16. We call on the United Nations system to strengthen current initiatives and launch new ones to help developing countries, particularly those in special situations and facing special needs, reach the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.

A MIXED STORY - successes, uneven progress, challenges and opportunities

17. We recognize that a number of countries, including the poorest, have achieved major successes in combating extreme poverty and hunger, improving school enrolment and child health, expanding access to clean water and HIV treatment and controlling malaria, tuberculosis and neglected tropical diseases.

18. We also acknowledge that progress has been uneven and, without additional efforts, several of the Millennium Development Goals are likely to be missed in many countries. There is a lack of progress in reaching full and productive employment. We are especially concerned that progress has been slow in improving maternal health and reducing maternal mortality. There has also been insufficient progress on gender equality and empowerment of women. There is also limited progress on environmental sustainability. In particular, with almost half of the population of the developing world without access to basic sanitation the sanitation target is out of reach.

19. We recognize that many of the successes have been realized through the adoption of good practices and effective policies, including:

- effective government leadership and inclusive national ownership;
- improved quantity and quality and targeting of financial resources;
- greater predictability, transparency and accountability in international development cooperation;
- adequate capacity to deliver quality services equitably on a national scale;
- civil society and community involvement and empowerment;
- effective global partnerships.

20. We take note of the lessons learned and successful policies and approaches from countries that could be replicated and scaled-up, including the importance of:

- forward-looking macroeconomic policies that lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable growth;
- ensuring universal access to social services and the provision of a social protection floor with wide coverage;
- community-led strategies;
- adequate and consistent financial support in the context of predictable national and international policy environments;
- governance and institutional implementation capacities at the country level; and
- better monitoring and data for better programme and policy formulation and for ensuring accountability.

21. We acknowledge that the multiple and interrelated challenges of poverty, food security, energy, global economic and financial crisis, and climate change at the same time present the global community with a unique opportunity to tackle them together through innovative approaches, new methods and in forward-looking ways that will ensure inclusive, sustained and sustainable growth and further the promotion of sustainable development.

22. We recognize that the most severe impacts of climate change are being experienced by vulnerable populations who have contributed the least to the problem. Addressing the climate change challenge through appropriate approaches provides opportunities for broader improvements for achieving the Millennium Development Goals which would also contribute to the capacities needed to tackle climate change.

23. We recognize that attention must be focused on the special needs of the most vulnerable and the large and increasing economic and social inequalities, including those resulting from geography, sex, age, disability, ethnicity and other vulnerabilities. In particular the disparities between rural and urban areas and between rich and the poor on many of the Millennium Development Goals remain significant. The focus on the most excluded and marginalized populations will ensure that they benefit from progress towards the Millennium Development Goals.

24. We recognize the urgency of attention to the many countries with special needs, and the challenges they confront in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The challenges are most severe in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing states and countries that are vulnerable to natural hazards or recurring lapses into conflict or armed violence.

25. We reiterate the special needs of Africa as a continent currently not on track to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. We are concerned that aid to Africa lags far behind commitments and needs.

26. We acknowledge that reducing the risk of disasters and increasing resilience to natural hazards in different development sectors, particularly in small island developing states, whose existence is threatened by climate change, can have multiplier effects and accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

27. We acknowledge that armed violence, conflict and the resulting breakdown of the rule of law, justice and security are also a major threat to human security and to the hard-won Millennium Development Goal gains. We emphasize the urgent need to focus on the root causes of conflict and armed violence and advance people-centred solutions.

28. We recognize the growing gap in the achievement of the MDG's in conflict-affected and recovering countries and other fragile states and the need for stronger focus on the unique development challenges in this context. We emphasize that efforts of these countries to prevent or recover from violent conflict or from natural disasters should be supported through an integrated approach to development and security challenges in the early recovery phase as well as in the medium and long term.

THE WAY FORWARD – AN ACTION AGENDA FOR ACHIEVING THE MDGs BY 2015

29. We reiterate the need to strengthen national ownership and leadership of development strategies, which is a key determinant of progress. We therefore encourage countries, including through democratic processes and wide consultations and participation with non-governmental stakeholders, to design and implement development strategies that are tailored to their specific situations and to strengthen their domestic capacities.

30. We reaffirm our commitment to adopt and implement comprehensive national development strategies to achieve the internationally agreed goals, including the Millennium

Development Goals. We call on the United Nations system to support the design and strengthened implementation of these strategies, at the request of Member States.

31. We stress the need for international rules to allow policy space and policy flexibility for developing countries as they are directly related to the development strategies of national governments. We further emphasize the need for policy space including to formulate development strategies that take into account national interests and differing needs of countries

32. We call for urgent efforts to enhance the policy coherence, governance and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems order to foster a supportive and enabling international environment for development and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In this regard we stress the pressing need for substantive and comprehensive reform of the international economic and financial system and architecture to better enable it to respond to and prevent financial and economic emergencies, effectively promote development and equitably serve the needs of Member States. To this end, it is crucial to engage in an open, inclusive and transparent dialogue for reform.

33. We reaffirm that gender equality and women's empowerment is a key goal in itself and an essential to achieving all the Millennium Development Goals, as well as fundamental for development, peace and security.

34. We recognize that promoting sustained, equitable and inclusive growth is necessary for accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. We affirm that while economic growth is necessary to reduce poverty and accelerate progress towards the development goals it is not sufficient: growth should lead to rapid job creation, be equitable and inclusive and be accompanied by effective social policies.

35. We recognize the importance of a society for all that is stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just in order to create an enabling environment for development and strengthen national capacities for mitigating the impact of economic crises and preventing and recovering from conflict. We call on Member States to take effective measures for promoting social inclusion and integration and incorporate these into their national development strategies.

36. We affirm that ensuring universal access to social services and providing a universal social protection floor with wide coverage are essential to consolidate and achieve further development gains. Social protection schemes that address and reduce inequality and social exclusion are an essential condition for inclusive development and achieving the Goals.

37. We recognize the importance of working with all stakeholders, and strengthening partnerships in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The private sector has a key role in generating employment, promoting investment, developing new technologies and enabling inclusive growth. Sharing technologies, business models, outreach strategies and skilled managers as well as public-private collaboration are important contributions for the scaling-up of initiatives. In this connection, we note the work of the United Nations Global

Compact, in which companies have committed to corporate social responsibility and action in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

38. We stress the importance of strengthening international and regional institutions for cooperation in order to provide effective support to national development strategies and to sustain reforms for a more conducive international environment for development. Interventions to achieve the Millennium Development Goals will require expanded institutional capacity at all levels in both donor and recipient countries. Concrete steps will need to be taken at all levels to improve coordination and management of United Nations entities in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

39. We are determined to advance and support the crucial role of governance, and building institutional implementation capacities at the country level in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Integrity, accountability and transparency are crucial for managing resources and combating the abuse, corruption and organized crime that adversely affect society, particularly the poor and vulnerable. Good governance goals should be pursued in conjunction with development.

40. We resolve to mobilize adequate, consistent and predictable financial support, at both the national and international levels, which are crucial for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Increased public investments in education, health, water, sanitation, infrastructure and access to energy are essential for significant progress. There is an urgent need to broaden and strengthen partnerships to ensure a supportive international framework for sufficient, predictable and well-coordinated financing for development.

41. We call for better monitoring and adequate and reliable data for all countries, which are vital for designing better programmes and policies and for ensuring accountability by development partners and stakeholders. We urge countries to increase public expenditure for national statistical systems to effectively monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. Such policies should be supported by development partners.

MDG 1 - ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

42. To accelerate progress on eradicating extreme poverty and to address and reverse the recent increases in hunger, we are committing to:

- a) Mitigating the social impacts of the multiple crises and ensuring that the ongoing responses to the crises are effective, inclusive and sustainable;
- b) Pursuing sustained, employment-intensive and inclusive high rates of economic growth and stable inflation through macroeconomic policy and an enabling international environment.
- c) Supporting increased investment in youth employment through active labour market measures and public-private partnerships that improve young people's prospects of finding decent and productive work.
- d) Increasing access to decent and productive employment for all, both in the formal and informal sector, especially for women, youth and rural populations and promoting small- and medium-sized enterprises through initiatives such as skills enhancement and

- technical training programmes, vocational training and entrepreneurial skills development
- e) Promoting inclusive finance, as well as inclusive financial sectors, by offering appropriate credit, savings, insurance and payment products and services to all segments of the population
 - f) Increasing the sustainable agricultural production of food, augmenting both its availability and quality
 - g) Supporting increased agricultural productivity and sustainable agricultural practices by facilitating the access of smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, to markets, credits and inputs.
 - h) Implementing urgently the comprehensive plan of action for smallholder farmers, notably through a new multi-donor trust fund, with the \$20 billion over three years commitment made by the countries represented at the Group of Eight Summit held in L'Aquila, Italy to achieve global food security.
 - i) Increasing short-, medium- and long-term national and international investment in sustainable agriculture and rural development, and restoring the balance between rural and urban development.
 - j) Supporting national efforts through the provision of adequate and predictable financial resources, and in this regard welcoming the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security.
 - k) Achieving food security and eradicating hunger through the transfer and use of appropriate, affordable and sustainable agricultural technology.
 - l) Addressing environmental obstacles to sustainable agriculture such as desertification, land degradation and drought and mitigating risks of climate change to agriculture by reclaiming degraded land and increasing investment in risk assessments, early warning systems and disaster preparedness.
 - m) Addressing inequities in access to food, with a focus on hunger hotspots and vulnerable populations, especially very young children, as well as targeted support of children and providing school-based meals to children.
 - n) Ensuring an effective social protection floor providing access to essential public services and a basic set of social transfers that establish a minimum level of income security and health care for all.
 - o) Taking legislative, administrative and judicial action to remove barriers that prevent equal access of marginalized and discriminated groups, including indigenous people and persons with disabilities, to social services and protect against discriminatory practices.
 - p) Adopting policies to facilitate the expansion of micro credit and microfinance institutions in order to service the large unmet demand among poor people for financial services, including the identification and development of mechanisms to promote access to sustainable financial services, the removal of institutional and regulatory obstacles, the promotion of financial literacy and the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor. These policies should be supported by the UN system and other stakeholders.

MDG 2 – ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

43. To protect the considerable gains in primary education made by many countries during the past decade and to make further progress towards the goal of universalisation, we are committing to:

- a) Removing barriers, outside and within education systems to provide equitable educational and learning opportunities for all by promoting, with the support of the international community, appropriate targeted evidence-based measures, such as abolishing school fees, providing school meals, providing subsidies for other costs such as communication and energy to make primary education more available, accessible and affordable, especially for the most marginalized children, especially those living in remote areas.
- b) Addressing the root causes of the disparities and diverse forms of exclusion and discrimination affecting out-of-school children by developing and operationalizing intersectoral approaches through enhanced inter-ministerial collaboration.
- c) Ensuring the sustainability and predictability of funding for national education systems by maintaining adequate national education budgets and by scaling-up education aid programmes. In this regard, supporting the comprehensive reform of the Education For All Fast Track Initiative and exploring innovative approaches to education financing and resolving to give particular attention to an equitable allocation of resources.
- d) Ensuring quality education and progression through the school system, including through the establishment of child-friendly schools and by increasing the number of teachers and quality of institutions through comprehensive teacher policies which address issues of recruitment, retention, professional development, employment and teaching conditions and teachers' status through increased national capacity.
- e) Giving greater priority to the transition to post-primary, post-basic and secondary education, vocational training and lifelong learning taking into consideration the cost-effectiveness, equity and inclusiveness and socioeconomic relevance of post-primary education as well as the transition from post-primary education to work.
- f) Working with non-state providers, such as non-governmental organizations, communities, qualified volunteers, and the private sector to integrate their interventions and align them with national systems, emphasizing a systemic and comprehensive approach to education.
- g) Conducting learning assessments and using the results to improve tracking and learning for all, based on robust data collection and analysis.

MDG 3 - PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

44. We commit to accelerate progress on gender equality and the empowerment of women, by:

- a) Removing barriers to girls' education, including by providing scholarships, cash transfers and eliminating user fees; expanding the support for girls, especially at the secondary level; and improving the quality of education.
- b) Empowering women, in particular women living in poverty, through, inter alia, social and economic policies that guarantee them full and equal access to all levels of quality education and training and to affordable and adequate public and social services, as well as equal access to financial resources and full and equal rights to own land and other

- property, and taking further appropriate measures to reduce their vulnerability to violence.
- c) Generating full and productive employment and decent work for women, including by promoting equal skills development and employment opportunities, and reducing wage gaps between women and men.
 - d) Investing in infrastructure and gender-responsive economic stimulus packages to reduce women's work burden.
 - e) Taking action to improve the numbers and influence of women in all political decision-making, including by investing in women's leadership in local decision-making structures.
 - f) Strengthening accountability for enhancing women's rights and ending gender discrimination in line with commitments made in the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action and relevant ILO conventions.
 - g) Putting in place comprehensive laws, policies and programmes to prevent and address violence against women.
 - h) Improving national-level capacity, with the support of the international community, to track and report on progress, gaps and opportunities through better generation and use of sex-disaggregated data and statistics and improving reporting, monitoring, analysis and accountability for progress at all levels.
 - i) Strengthening the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and empowerment of women and girls through capacity-building and gender mainstreaming, ensuring funding of targeted activities and enhancing dialogue between donors and partners, and strengthen mechanisms to effectively measure the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance.

PROMOTING GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH FOR ALL

45. To strengthen global public health for all, we are committing to:

- a) Strengthening the capacity of national health systems to deliver equitable health services and promoting the widest possible access to health services at the point of use, especially to those at risk and the most vulnerable, through public policies that reduce the barriers to uptake of health services
- b) Providing comprehensive community-based primary health-care services, which ensure a continuum from prevention to care and rehabilitation.
- c) Improving the quality and effectiveness of health service delivery by providing integrated health services through the increased use of common platforms and by integrating relevant services of other sectors.
- d) Ensuring the effectiveness of health systems and interventions in addressing the rapidly changing medical needs of people as well as the underlying social determinants of health.
- e) Reaffirming the international commitment to support countries' efforts in strengthening health systems that deliver equitable health outcomes as a basis of a comprehensive approach.
- f) Further strengthening of international cooperation, inter alia, through exchange of best practices in the area of health systems strengthening, access to medicines, training of

health personnel, transfer of technology and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine.

- g) Encouraging all States to apply measures and procedures for enforcing intellectual property rights in such a manner as to avoid creating barriers to the legitimate trade of medicines and to provide for safeguards against the abuse of such measures and procedure.

MDG 4 – REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

46. To build on the considerable recent progress in reducing the under-five mortality rate of children we are committing to:

- a. Sustaining the major success of the measles campaign by ensuring sufficient funding, political commitment and high quality implementation of measles control activities, especially in priority countries.
- b. Maintaining the progress with regard to combating malaria and the extension of the use of insecticide-treated bednets.
- c. Stepping up the fight against pneumonia and diarrhoea through the scaling-up of proven highly effective preventative and treatment measures as well as new tools, such as new vaccines, which are affordable even in the poorest countries.
- d. Raising greater awareness of the critical impact of increasing sanitation coverage and hand washing with soap on reducing child death due to diarrhoea.
- e. Ensuring that the next generation is born HIV-free by further extending the coverage and improving the quality of Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV services.

MDG 5 – IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

47. To reduce the large number of women who die every day from preventable complications, we are committing to:

- a) Addressing maternal, newborn and child health in a comprehensive manner, including through skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care, and the prevention and treatment of sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV, in strengthened health systems that provide accessible, acceptable and affordable integrated care and effective, multisectoral and integrated approaches to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, by prioritizing voluntary family planning.
- b) Taking action at all levels to address the interlinked root causes of maternal mortality and morbidity such as poverty, malnutrition, lack of accessible and appropriate health services and gender inequality.
- c) Ensuring that all women, men and young people have information about and access to the widest possible range of safe, effective, affordable, evidence-based and acceptable methods of family planning.
- d) Strengthening the role of midwives and fully tapping their potential as trusted providers of maternal health services as well as family planning services within communities.

MDG-6 HIV/AIDS – COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

48. To halt and reverse the HIV epidemic by 2015 and to build on past success in the fight against tuberculosis and malaria, we are committing to:

- a) Significantly intensify prevention efforts by scaling up strategically aligned programmes, targeting the vulnerable and most at risk, that combine biomedical, behavioural and social, and structural interventions, such as empowerment of women, stigma reduction, and protection of human rights.
- b) Building new strategic coalitions to strengthen and leverage the synergistic linkages between HIV and other health and development initiatives, and in this regard expediting action to integrate HIV information and services into programmes for primary health care, sexual reproductive health, and mother and child health.
- c) Planning now for long-term sustainability, including addressing the inevitable increase in demand for second and third line drug regimens.
- d) Sustaining the rapid progress in scaling-up of the use of insecticide treated bednets to combat malaria.
- e) Renewing efforts to prevent and treat neglected tropical diseases, prevention and treatment services for malaria and tuberculosis, including by accelerating further research and development, developing innovative medicines and adopting comprehensive prevention strategies.
- f) Increasing national and international funding to meet agreed commitments to ensure universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support and in this regard committing full funding for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and to exploring additional innovative financing mechanisms to ensure the long-term sustainability of the response

MDG 7- ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

49. To accelerate progress on ensuring environmental sustainability, we are committing to:

- a) Pursuing sustainable development through comprehensive and coherent development planning frameworks, including national sustainable development strategies, as well as the adoption of strong national legislation with mandatory targets and commitments towards their attainment.
- b) Promoting alternative renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies through policy reforms that reduce subsidies for carbon-intensive development and create positive incentives, appropriate taxes and other initiatives that will encourage the adoption of renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies.
- c) Implementing national action plans that lead to investment in access to energy for all, increased energy efficiency and extended use of renewable energy in order to shift to a green economy.
- d) Continuing to increase sustainable access to safe drinking water by linking water management and water efficiency plans to national planning, budgeting and priority setting.

- e) Ensuring that all improved sources are providing drinking water that is safe, including by exploring innovative ways of improving the tracking and monitoring of water quality.
- f) Redoubling efforts to close the sanitation gap through scaled-up ground-level action, supported by strong political will and increased community participation and resources.
- g) Reducing slum populations by prioritizing national slum improvement and prevention strategies, including undertaking sound urban planning that stipulates the roles of the key stakeholders.
- h) Responding to rapid urbanization by pursuing policies that promote more balanced growth, including rural development, to address the factors that result in rural-to-urban migration.
- i) Implementing the commitments made at the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development, in order to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

MDG 8 - DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

50. To expand and strengthen the global partnership for development, we are committing to:

- a) Strengthening developing country capabilities to undertake integrated assessments of the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on resources required to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and to develop and implement coherent policy responses to meet these requirements, including through external financial support.
- b) Endorsing an accountability framework between developed and developing countries, as agreed in the Monterrey Consensus and the Accra Agenda for Action, and between Governments and their citizens, that consolidates global commitments, links them to results and timelines, and establishes monitoring and compliance mechanisms.
- c) Supporting increased domestic financial resource mobilization in developing countries and enhancing financing for development by ensuring developmental reforms in the areas of international investment, aid, international trade, taxation, debt and systemic issues as promised in the Monterrey Consensus and reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development.
- d) Urging developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for ODA to developing countries, including 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encouraging developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to meet development goals and targets.
- e) Ensuring rapid achievement of the 2005 Group of Eight Gleneagles' commitments by raising ODA by \$35 billion a year to reach the promise of \$154 billion in current values, with Africa receiving an additional \$20 billion to reach the target of \$63 billion for the region by 2010.
- f) Agreeing, in the light of the expiration in 2010 of the Gleneagles' intermediate targets for aid delivery, on a concrete and specific new time line for accelerated aid delivery in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

- g) Implementing, as appropriate, the 2005 Paris Declaration and the 2008 Accra Agenda for Action to enhance aid effectiveness, by improving the quantity, quality, coverage, predictability and sustainability of aid.
- h) Strengthening and scaling-up existing and innovative financing mechanisms, and exploring new ones so as to ensure an increased, steady, predictable, sustainable and concessional funding to supplementing traditional financing mechanisms for the Millennium Development Goals.
- i) Strengthening international cooperation in tax matters to enhance governments' tax revenues, fiscal capacity and policy space, including through the establishment of an Intergovernmental Commission on Tax Matters.
- j) Curtailing illicit financial flows, including by applying anti-money laundering principles in international bank transactions, adhering to standards for tax information exchange between member States and ending trade mispricing and abusive transfer pricing.
- k) Fully supporting and further developing an open, rule-based, predictable non-discriminatory multilateral trading system, inter alia, by working expeditiously towards an ambitious, balanced and comprehensive development friendly outcome of the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations.
- l) Increasing Aid for Trade to support and enhance the trade capacity of developing countries.
- m) Fulfilling the commitment made in the 2005 WTO Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to provide duty-free and quota-free access on a lasting basis for all products from all Least Developed Countries in a manner that ensures stability, security and predictability.
- n) Honouring the 2005 pledge of developed countries to eliminate, by 2013, all export subsidies including in agriculture in order to eliminate trade distortion affecting farm production in developing countries.
- o) Expanding the access of developing countries to external financing, and enacting measures to assist countries facing severe financial distress resulting from the financial and economic crises, such as additional concessional financing, standstills on debt obligations, debt relief and debt restructuring, with the broad participation of the debtors and creditors.
- p) Enhancing international cooperation to ensure access to affordable, high quality and effective medicines for all, and strongly encouraging multinational drug companies to lower pharmaceutical prices for developing countries through dual pricing policies.
- q) Emphasizing the strategic role of science, technology and innovation in developing new technologies, approaches and methods to meet development needs and accelerate progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.
- r) Strengthening public-private partnerships to close the large gaps that remain in access and affordability to information and communications technologies across countries and income groups, including upgrading the quality and quantity of existing telecommunications infrastructure, particularly the least developed countries, to support more modern ICT applications and greatly increase connectivity and access, including at the village level.
- s) Developing new measures to enhance the access of developing countries to technology for climate change mitigation and adaptation and for boosting agricultural productivity.
- t) Supporting national capacity development by further strengthening capacity development activities, particularly through the substantial increase in the funding of the Development Account to make full use of the capacity development expertise of entities of the United Nations Secretariat

51. We designate the Economic and Social Council as the intergovernmental mechanism that will review the implementation of the outcome of the 2010 High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, particularly through the Annual Ministerial Review and the Development Cooperation Forum.

52. We encourage the United Nations system to report on a regular basis to the Economic and Social Council on new initiatives and progress in helping all countries reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

53. We request the Secretary-General to report annually on the progress in the implementation of this Declaration until 2015 and to make recommendations in his annual reports for further steps to realize the United Nations Development Agenda beyond 2015.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

12 July 2010

Excellency

I have the honour to draw your attention to the informal interactive hearings which were held on 14 and 15 June 2010 with non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to provide an input to the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals, in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 64/184.

According to the same resolution, the General Assembly requested that a summary of the hearings be issued as an Assembly document prior to the High-Level Plenary Meeting. To assist Member States in their ongoing preparations for the High-Level Plenary Meeting, I have decided to issue an advance unedited version in English of the summary, which is now available on the website of the President of the General Assembly: www.un.org/ga/president/64/. The summary will shortly be available as a General Assembly document in all the official languages.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali' followed by a stylized flourish.

Ali Abdussalam Treki

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the
United Nations
New York

**Informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with
representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society
organizations and the private sector**

**ADVANCE UNEDITED SUMMARY
12 July 2010**

INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly held informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector on 14 and 15 June 2010 in New York, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 64/184 of 21 December 2009. The Hearings were organized by the President of the 64th session of the General Assembly as an input to the preparatory process of the General Assembly High-level Plenary Meeting (HLPM) on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to be held from 20 to 22 September 2010 in New York.
2. The themes for the Hearings were based on the report of the Secretary-General of 12 February 2010, “Keeping the promise: a forward-looking review to promote an agreed action agenda to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015” (A/64/665).¹ Four interactive sessions were held under the themes of: “Building a better tomorrow: local actions, national strategies and global structures;” “Equal and inclusive partnerships: Accountability in the fight against poverty;” “Sustaining development and withstanding crises;” “From voice to policy: 1660 days left.”
3. 46 speakers and 519 observers, representing 335 non-governmental, civil society and private sector organizations, participated in the meeting, together with Member States and observers. Well over half of the participants were women.
4. This summary of the Hearings provides Member States with a resource in their consultations on the Outcome Document to be adopted at the HLPM. The summary offers some guiding principles and proposals by civil society and the private sector for the way forward to 2015, including through participatory accountability frameworks. It then summarizes a range of specific proposals under Goals 1 to 8, as part of a global “MDG Breakthrough Plan”, as called for by many civil society organisations.

¹ A global on-line consultation based on the Secretary-General's comprehensive report, to which over 160 international, national and local civil society organizations contributed, is available on: <www.un-ngls.org/mdgconsultation>. Written statements from the Hearings are available on: <<http://www.un-ngls.org/mdg2010>>

GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND PROPOSALS FOR THE WAY FORWARD

5. Participants emphasized that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have provided a common and unifying framework for development and a useful mobilization tool.
6. Many speakers reaffirmed the message of the Secretary-General in his report for the HLPF that the MDGs rest upon the Millennium Declaration and are an expression of human rights. Among those rights, participants emphasized both civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights, and the right to development. Over half the world's population is composed of women, yet realizing gender equality remains one of the most difficult goals to achieve, which has implications for all the MDGs.
7. For many speakers, the onset of the multiple global food, economic and climate crises only reinforced concerns expressed by civil society for many years that the prevailing development model of recent decades is unsustainable. Many participants echoed the Secretary-General's call for strengthened national ownership of policies to pursue more inclusive, equitable and environmentally sustainable development paths. This implied greater policy space to mobilize domestic resources and align forward-looking macroeconomic and sectoral policies with development goals – currently often still restricted by inappropriate external conditionalities, trade rules and the constraints imposed by international financial markets. This pointed to the need for major reforms in international economic and development cooperation.
8. While developed countries have fallen short of fulfilling their commitments, uneven domestic distribution of resources in developing countries also undermines the MDGs. It was noted that in recent years, many developing countries experienced high levels of economic growth, but poverty reduction and job creation lagged behind – so-called “jobless growth.”
9. Throughout the hearings panellists offered examples of the many best practices that could be scaled up and replicated in order to reach the goals by 2015. For example, it was noted that the government of Malawi in 2004 brought back agricultural subsidies to small farmers. Between 2005 and 2007, this resulted in a two-fold productivity increasing, turning food deficit of 43% into a food surplus of 57%. The proportion of people living on less than US\$1 a day has fallen from 52% to 40%. In Brazil, the “Fome Zero” (Zero Hunger) programme includes cash transfers, food banks, community kitchens and school meals, and has

reached over 44 million Brazilians suffering from hunger. This helped reduce child malnutrition by 73%. In India, the National Rural Employment Guarantee (NREG) scheme provides a legal guarantee of 100 days of employment a year for at least one member of rural households paid at the statutory minimum wage, reaching some 40 million households living below the poverty line. These types of examples reinforce the view that the MDGs are achievable if the necessary political will is there.

10. Many participants welcomed the Secretary-General's insistence on a holistic approach to the MDGs. A "sectoral" approach to the MDGs could lead to outcomes where young people benefit from adequate health and education services only to face an economic system that does not provide enough productive jobs. The MDGs have a number of targets designed to redress some of the most glaring gender inequalities, where there has been greater progress on access to education for girls than on reducing maternal mortality. There were calls for more investments to improve the position of the most off-track MDGs and regions, which should be backed up by additional resources to avoid cutting back on continued progress on other MDGs. In the same vein, preserving biodiversity and environmental resources (under Goal 7) provide key building blocks for poverty reduction under Goal 1. A broader holistic approach meant fully addressing the cross-cutting obstacles that undermine the realization of all MDGs – whether in relation to difficulties in mobilizing additional resources, unsustainable and inequitable development paths, or unaccountable governance structures at national and international levels.
11. The mutual responsibility of developed and developing countries to meet the MDGs by 2015 depends on strengthening the frameworks for accountability. Through these frameworks, Member States, individually and collectively, must be accountable to their citizens and support their further empowerment in advancing development. Accountability mechanisms should have strong civil society participation and be rooted in national and international human rights mechanisms. Localized targets and indicators to monitor progress in terms of differential impact of policies on socially excluded and marginalized groups were also seen as essential. A gender and social exclusion based audit of the MDGs – undertaken in full cooperation with civil society - was seen as an essential immediate step to be taken in the new 2010-2015 accountability framework, to which the HLPF should agree in September.
12. The principal recommendations coming from the Hearings in this regard were:

- a. Increase and strengthen the role of existing national and international human rights accountability mechanisms, including by providing such institutions with legal authority to monitor and hear complaints on human rights violations. Governments should report on their MDG performance to such bodies and comply with their decisions.
- b. States should ratify Optional Protocols to human rights treaties, especially the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- c. Systematically integrate reporting on national and international implementation of the MDGs in national reports to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Human Rights Council and to international human rights treaty bodies.
- d. Guarantee the full and effective participation of civil society organizations, including women's organizations, indigenous peoples and grassroots organizations of the poor in the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of all MDG-related programmes and policies. This further implies guaranteeing the rights to freedom of expression, information, assembly and association.
- e. Ensure that all development operations and policies affecting the territories of indigenous peoples and other ethnic minorities are subject to their free, prior and informed consent.
- f. Implement at the local level "development pacts" that involve public commitments by local authorities to deliver on development objectives defined by local communities; transparent mechanisms for local civil society organizations to hold authorities accountable on how funds are spent, whether policy commitments are implemented; and to combat corruption.
- g. Governments should strengthen their commitment to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment as cross-cutting priorities for reaching all goals by 2015. Women's organizations and grassroots women must have formal mechanisms of meaningful and systematic participation in the new UN gender entity at global, regional and national levels.
- h. Strengthen mechanisms for monitoring and mutual accountability between donors and recipient countries and greater coherence of development policies – within a participatory framework that

ensures more balanced country representation. The UN's Development Cooperation Forum should be the main mechanism to track progress and mutual accountability between all development actors, with strengthened participation of other key stakeholders.

- i. It was frequently noted that progress on poverty reduction also requires strong participatory frameworks anchored on human rights principles, and greater transparency as well as fighting corruption and capital flight (which by some accounts could represent as much as US\$1 trillion per year for developing countries as a whole, or ten times the amount of ODA).
- j. Consider establishing a Global Economic Coordination Council to ensure accountability and coherence of global economic governance with development goals, including the MDGs (see Goal 8).

MDG 1 – ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

13. Many participants emphasized the need for decisive progress on MDG 1, not only to reduce poverty and hunger, but also to advance all the other Goals. It was reiterated that even before the global economic and food crises caused major regressions under MDG 1, the absolute number of people in poverty increased in many parts of the world between 1990 and 2005. Therefore, many insisted on the need to embed future poverty reduction strategies within alternative development strategies, placing central importance on the generation of more productive employment with higher wages, major investments to support small farmers' capacities to produce staple foods for the local market and mechanisms to protect their livelihoods from cheap imports, price drops and natural disasters.

14. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 1 are:

- a. Ensure that developing countries have the policy space to determine and implement their nationally-owned, democratically-determined development priorities.
- b. Developing countries should put in place national MDG 1 "rescue plans," with costed, time-bound strategies for achieving the MDG target to halve hunger, while donors must commit to funding "financing gaps" as part of their commitments to MDG 1.

- c. To support the legal empowerment of the poor, governments should integrate human rights objectives in macroeconomic policies.
- d. Promote rapid implementation of the Global Jobs Pact to stimulate economic recovery and socioeconomic transformation, notably to redress “jobless growth”, establish a social protection floor in every country and upgrade the capacities and rights of actors in the informal economy, including women. Sectoral policies should support small and micro-enterprises in the informal economy, where the vast majority of workers making less than US\$1.25 a day are earning a living.
- e. Stimulus packages in response to the on-going crisis must be maintained but refocused on providing employment-intensive investments in social infrastructure and quality public services. In the face of calls to phase out stimulus measures for fiscal consolidation, these investments should be made permanent with efforts to regain fiscal space including through international cooperation.
- f. Promote banking services, micro-insurance and other financial services that can reach low-income and remote communities, small and micro-enterprises. Facilitate loan guarantees to micro-credit institutions and other measures to decentralize access to finance such as mobile phone banking and more broadly, branchless banking using postal and other retail outlets.
- g. Develop enabling and proportionate regulatory and supervisory frameworks conducive to financial inclusion, taking into account the peculiarities of reaching out to underserved communities. Ensure an appropriate level of consumer protection, as a core element to build long-term relationships, based on trust and confidence.
- h. Governments and donors should invest in women smallholder farmers as a key to halving hunger as it results in twice as much growth as investment in any other sector. Governments should remove judicial and other obstacles that female entrepreneurs and women business leaders are confronted with, notably in terms of access to land and credit. In addition, aid to agriculture should focus on staple crops, the promotion of local production for local use and the preservation of biodiversity and traditional knowledge.
- i. Global spending on food security should be increased by at least US\$40 billion per year to tackle urgent hunger needs.

- j. Dialogue between small farmers, scientists, agribusinesses, non-governmental organizations, think tanks and government services should be promoted to explore sustainable agricultural practices that improve productivity, build on indigenous knowledge, while preserving and restoring soils and the natural environment.
- k. Support stronger organization of small farmers to develop more equitable relations in their partnerships with the other actors in the supply chain to raise their income. Promote the use of new information and communication technologies (ICTs) to deliver knowledge and information to farmers.
- l. A universal social protection floor should be established to include elements such as an employment guarantee, cash transfers, cash and food packages, public works employment schemes, free school meals, unemployment benefits and other social grants. Care must be taken in the design of these schemes to avoid a gendered division of work as the instrument and channel for delivering services.
- m. Special measures should be taken to ensure that people living in extreme poverty, including women and children, and other vulnerable and excluded groups, such as indigenous peoples and the disabled do not get bypassed by social protection. The universal social protection floor should be explicitly framed within basic human rights.

MDG 2 – ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

- 15. It was noted that strong gains have been made toward the realization of Goal 2. School user fees have been dropped in many countries, allowing some of the world's poorest children to access school. Forty million more children have been able to access school in the last eight years. The world has the know-how and resources to ensure everyone has an education. Yet progress is still far too slow: at current rates the education goals will not be met in the next 100 years, let alone by 2015.
- 16. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 2 were:
 - a. Sickness and malnutrition, poor planning and poor infrastructure are among the barriers to access education that can often become insurmountable for many children and young people. Achievement on all other Goals directly impacts the achievement of education targets.

- b. While investment in primary education is essential, it is also important to invest in the expansion of post-primary education, especially for adolescent girls. The transition to secondary school must become as natural and inevitable as entry into primary school. In order to build on gains in education in the past decade, governments and other stakeholders should consider making this a key development priority.
- c. Achievement of the MDG targets will only be possible if adolescents are able to successfully transition from school to decent work. Strengthen opportunities for adolescents so they can make a successful transition into remunerative work. Girls especially should see their future economic possibilities within both the books they read, and the career guidance they receive so that they are encouraged to learn skills that are more relevant to labour market opportunities.

MDG 3 – PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

- 17. It was repeatedly emphasized that advancing gender equality is not simply a function of MDG 3, but an underlying aspect of all of the Goals. Women comprise two thirds of the people living in extreme poverty and any attempt to alleviate poverty must examine the gender discrimination underlying Goal 1. Violence against women is also an impediment to women's participation in development and their ability to exercise their human rights.
- 18. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 3 were:
 - a. Immediately scale up meaningful participation of women in decision-making – at all levels. In particular efforts to encourage and make it possible for women to become elected officials should be further accelerated.
 - b. Gender-based violence should be addressed in the MDGs, as recommended by the Secretary-General's In-Depth Study on All Forms of Violence Against Women in 2006. It should be established as a target in the MDG agenda.
 - c. Progress on women's empowerment could be better monitored and be more efficient through the development of more systematic data collection disaggregated by age and gender.
 - d. Taking into account existing mandates, the Outcome Document should support the rapid establishment of the consolidated gender

equality entity. This new UN body can serve as a catalyst for accelerating action at country level to meet the MDGs.

MDG 4, 5, 6: IMPROVING GLOBAL HEALTH FOR ALL

19. Throughout the sessions, participants highlighted the strong interlinkages between the three health MDGs (4, 5, 6) and the other Goals. While acknowledging that significant progress had been made on some health-related targets, they noted that many obstacles remained to achieving the health MDGs by 2015. In particular, they pointed to the alarming results in the area of maternal health and also to the risk of major regressions in other areas, notably HIV/AIDS and child mortality. If further progress is to be made on the health MDGs, more attention should be paid to the needs and perspectives of vulnerable and marginalized groups.
20. The main recommendations in regard to the three health-related MDGs were:
 - a. Participants pointed to the shortage and inequitable distribution of health workers within countries as one of the greatest obstacles to achievement. To address this problem, governments should assess their health system; strengthen their health workforce; train workers; and ensure a fair distribution of human and material resources. National health plans need to be fully funded. Predictable and sustainable financing mechanisms should be put in place.
 - b. Additional international development assistance is needed to scale up national health systems. Further technical and scientific support and capacity-building assistance should be provided.
 - c. Barriers to access health services are still numerous, in particular for marginalized groups. Barriers include: user fees, informal fees, inadequate and unaffordable transportation, poor communications and distance from health facilities.
 - d. Health systems need to be accountable to communities, including the most disadvantaged and marginalized. Governments should develop accountability mechanisms to report on and monitor health services; to release detailed data about government and donor aid for health and related performance indicators; and to strengthen the relationship between health workers and communities.
 - e. The research and development of innovative medicines and vaccines needs to be further developed and supported. Greater

efforts need to be made to find the right balance between the use of intellectual property rights for innovation and access to affordable essential drugs. At the same time the recognition and respect for the traditional medicines and practices of indigenous peoples should be improved.

- f. Sexual and reproductive health services must be accessible, affordable and culturally sensitive. Comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services should include contraception, maternity care, safe abortion services, prevention, diagnosis, counselling and treatment. Comprehensive sexuality education for children and young people, both in and out of school should be encouraged.
- g. HIV/AIDS is not only a health issue. Universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support is a prerequisite for achieving all MDGs. The target of universal access should be extended to 2015. Policies should support the achievement of universal access for the most vulnerable groups, including women and girls, young people, injection drug users, sex workers, men who have sex with men, migrants and others. People living with HIV/AIDS should not be criminalized. Governments should support specific measures to support women and young people, who remain disproportionately, affected by HIV. Community mobilization and direct engagement of people affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic should be promoted amongst all stakeholders.
- h. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has played an important role through its inclusive approach to development. The commitment to “full funding” for the Global Fund should be renewed.

MDG 7 – ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- 21. It was broadly recognized that the Millennium Development Goals will not be achieved without greater advancements in Goal 7. In particular it was noted that progress on improving sustainable access to improved water and sanitation is lacking: two million child deaths could be prevented every year with the realization of these most basic rights, 443 million lost school days could be recovered and needless economic waste that drains up to 5% of some countries’ gross domestic product could be avoided.
- 22. Climate change is an important variable in the process of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Climate change impacts are already

negatively affecting lives and livelihoods, in particular rural women, indigenous peoples and small farmers.

23. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 7 were:

- a. Strengthen support for national plans to achieve water and sanitation for all, and make sure resources are allocated in a transparent manner, and that services get to the poor and marginalized. Water, sanitation and hygiene policies should be integrated with other sectors, such as health and education.
- b. Large-scale investment in green infrastructure, as a response to the climate crisis and to further promote more sustainable development pathways, should be prioritized. Introducing renewable energies, green construction and transportation could enhance energy efficiency. In turn, this could also stimulate green and decent employment creation across a range of sectors.
- c. Governments should scale up mitigation, adaptation, financing and technology in response to climate change. To achieve this, it is imperative that developed countries set binding targets to reduce emissions by 40% by 2020. They must also pay their “fair share” of the cost of tackling the effects of climate change in developing countries. Poor farmers’ vulnerability to climate change should be reduced by investment in sustainable agriculture, local irrigation schemes and better use of local biodiversity.
- d. Ecologically destructive activities must cease and early warning systems for natural disasters should be in place.
- e. It is also important to ensure the full and effective participation of people, particularly indigenous groups, in the mechanisms of regulation, respecting the principal of free, prior and informed consent.

MDG 8 – DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

24. Many participants called for a major breakthrough in the global partnership for development. Governments must honour this partnership and scale up the mobilization of resources to finance all the MDGs and provide the policy and fiscal space needed to prevent further MDG regressions caused by systemic shocks, and reorient development strategies towards more equitable and sustainable paths.

25. The main recommendations for Millennium Development Goal 8 were:

- a. Donor countries should commit to interim targets between 2010 and 2015.
- b. To strengthen national ownership, budget support should increasingly be used as the main modality for aid delivery to countries committed to poverty reduction and good domestic accountability systems.
- c. All Member States should commit to significant reductions in military expenditure, the savings of which should be earmarked as resources to meet the MDGs.
- d. Emergency support for counter-cyclical crisis response and mitigation should be in the form of grants not loans, especially for Least-Developed Countries (LDCs), to avert a new debt crisis and further MDG regressions.
- e. Debt cancellation (not diverted from ODA) to the poorest countries should be part of the crisis response. All odious and illegitimate debt should be audited and cancelled. A fair and transparent debt workout mechanism should be established to ensure enforceable and equitable arbitration of sovereign debt restructuring under UN auspices.
- f. Implement a Financial Transactions Tax to recoup the losses to tax payers caused by financial rescue plans, help stabilize financial markets and generate the hundreds of billions of dollars needed each year to support developing countries to transition to more equitable and sustainable development paths capable of meeting all MDGs. The allocation of these funds should be managed within a UN framework.
- g. In order to combat capital flight, tax competition, corporate tax evasion and transfer pricing and to enable developing countries to mobilize domestic resources, adopt a multilateral agreement on automatic exchange of information, country-by-country reporting by transnational corporations, starting with the establishment of a United Nations Intergovernmental Commission on Tax Matters.
- h. Establish a new global reserve system based on a supranational global reserve currency, as well as regional currencies. In addition continuing to explore the potential of Special Drawing Rights (SDR) for development, including through reforms in the areas of allocation, interest charges, composition of the basket, transferability and use.

- i. Support regional initiatives that decentralize finance and empower people of the global South to exercise control over their own development paths, notably through alternative regional development banks and monetary funds and currency cooperation.
- j. Regulate and reform the credit rating agency industry into proper independent supervision institution(s), based on more transparency about ratings and strict regulation - including on conflict of interest.
- k. Recognize the right of developing countries to use capital management techniques not only for crisis prevention but to direct investments to meet the MDGs and other development goals.
- l. Agree to cooperate internationally to re-regulate financial markets to rein in financial speculation in general, and speculation in food and commodity markets in particular.
- m. Review the current Doha trade agenda and all existing multilateral, regional and bilateral trade agreements, as well as those under negotiation, with a view to removing elements that could lead to further MDG regressions caused by inappropriate trade liberalization. Endorse the call by LDCs for an “early harvest” of unilateral trade measures in favour of LDCs.
- n. Support the adoption of food and livelihoods safeguard mechanisms in all trade agreements – without *quid pro quo* concessions by developing countries, as an essential means to stabilize progress.
- o. Support the right of developing countries to fully use the flexibilities within the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIP) to source affordable medicines.
- p. Fully support the proposal for a Global Economic Council of the UN General Assembly, as an inclusive forum for deliberations and decision-making on global economic and financial questions and policy coherence with development objectives; and call on the General Assembly Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development to bring this proposal back on the table for serious consideration.



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6 August 2010

Excellency,

As you are aware, the informal consultations on the outcome document for the High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals were suspended on 30 July 2010 to give delegations more time to consider the draft forwarded on 28 July by the co-facilitators, H.E. Carsten Staur of Denmark and H. E. Paul Badji of Senegal.

In discussion with the two co-facilitators, we agreed that the process of consultations will resume on **Wednesday 25 August 2010** in order to conclude negotiations. I attach great importance to finalising the outcome document as quickly as possible as this is a key factor in the success of the MDGs Summit in September.

Let me thank the two co-facilitators for all the hard work, time and leadership they have put into this process so far, and urge all of you to continue to lend them your full support as we reach the end of this process.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali', followed by a long horizontal line.

Ali Abdussalam Treki

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York