

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8 July 2013

Excellency,

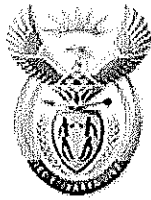
I have the pleasure to transmit to you a letter from the Co-facilitators for the Special Event for MDGs on 25 September 2013, H.E. Ms. Anne Anderson, Permanent Representative of Ireland and H.E. Mr. Kingsley Mamabolo, Permanent Representative of South Africa, convening open consultations on the second draft of the outcome document for the Special Event, which is attached to this letter. Consultations will take place in the ECOSOC Chamber on 12 July at 3:00 p.m.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zdravko Ponoš', written over a horizontal line.

Zdravko Ponoš
Chef de Cabinet

To all Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York



8 July 2013

Excellency,

Special Event towards achieving the MDGs

Following the consultations on Monday, 24 June and subsequent written inputs received from some delegations and groups, we are now attaching a second draft of our text for discussion at a meeting in the ECOSOC Chamber on 12 July from 3 pm.

To assist in your consideration of the revised text, we would make the following points.

- (i) The text is now in the form of a draft Declaration by Heads of State and Government, as called for by many delegations. We are well aware, however, that many other delegations have consistently and firmly made the point that a different form of outcome is appropriate to a PGA Special Event. It is our hope that if agreement can be reached on the content of the outcome document, its status will not prove a stumbling block. We would ask therefore that, for the moment at least, discussions continue with an open mind as to status.
- (ii) In the introductory paragraphs, we have kept the general balance of our earlier draft while adjusting the language to take on board a number of the drafting suggestions.
- (iii) We have made fairly significant adjustments in the Accelerating Implementation section (Focus on Individual Goals in previous text). In doing so, we sought to take account of the questions raised by a number of delegations as to the selectivity of our first draft, and also of the SG's Report which has just become

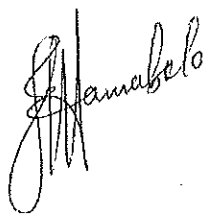
available. (The thrust of the SG's report is to highlight the gaps and those left behind – we have maintained and strengthened this focus in our draft). We have also made drafting amendments based on inputs from delegations during or subsequent to our last meeting.

(iv) The Partnerships section and the Post-2015 section have also been adjusted, keeping their general thrust but seeking to reflect drafting suggestions made.

(v) With regard to the Roadmap section, we have sought to reflect the inputs received while continuing to try to chart the way ahead as clearly as possible.

Given the calendar constraints, the co-facilitators are anxious to proceed expeditiously and we look forward to a substantive discussion on 12 July. Please check the Official Journal for confirmation of meeting details.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



H.E. Kingsley Mamabolo
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of South Africa



H.E. Anne Anderson
Permanent Representative
of Ireland

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

Draft Outcome Document

We, the Heads of State and Government, gathered at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on September 25, 2013 to review progress made towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and to chart the way forward.

We gather with a sense of urgency and determination, with less than 850 days remaining for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. We renew our commitment to the Goals and resolve to intensify all efforts for their achievement by 2015.

We welcome what has been achieved so far. The Millennium Development Goals have provided a common vision and contributed to remarkable progress. Significant and substantial advances have been made in meeting many of the targets.

However, we are concerned at the unevenness and gaps in achievement and at the immense challenges that remain. As we approach the 2015 deadline, unrelenting efforts are required across all Goals and in all developing countries. Among and within countries, those who have been left furthest behind require our most urgent attention and support.

We recognise the specific circumstances of many developing countries: the particular needs of the least-developed countries; the fact that, despite some impressive progress, sub-Saharan Africa as a region remains most off-track in meeting the Goals; and that, as a group, conflict and post conflict countries are the most challenged in achieving any of the Goals by 2015.

Accelerating Efforts

We reaffirm our commitment to the outcome document of the 2010 Summit on the MDGs and to all the steps outlined. The "Millennium Development Goals Report 2013" provides a clear indication of where our efforts must be directed, and will guide us in framing our approach and priorities.

We resolve to particularly target the most off-track MDGs and those where progress has stalled: including those relating to hunger, universal access to primary education, child mortality, maternal health, and access to sanitation. In each of these areas, we are determined to take the purposeful and coordinated actions that are called for. We will scale up proven interventions, fulfil the pledges we have made; and strengthen our support for the range of valuable initiatives under way.

Across all our acceleration efforts, we will emphasise inclusivity and accessibility for all, and will place a particular focus on the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. We will, for example, seek to build the resilience of the poorest in combating hunger, to improve the support and services to women giving birth in rural and remote areas, and to improve educational opportunity and learning outcomes for the most vulnerable children, including those affected by conflict.

Where efforts are broadly on track, and a political momentum exists, we will do everything possible to sustain and reinforce it: for example, in combating the ravages of HIV/AIDS, we will further step up efforts to meet the goal of universal access to anti-retroviral therapy by 2015, as well as efforts to expand knowledge to prevent HIV transmission. We will sustain and build on the remarkable gains in the fight against malaria and tuberculosis.

We will place a particular emphasis on approaches that have a cross-cutting and multiplier effect. We recognise that promoting gender equality and empowering women underpins and advances progress across all the Goals. We will act as champions of gender equality and address the range of barriers to women's empowerment in our societies.

Partnership

We underline the central role of the global partnerships for development and the importance of MDG-8 in achieving the MDGs. We recognise that substantial international support and an enabling international economic environment are essential if the MDGs are to be achieved by 2015.

A renewed global partnership based on MDG-8 must underpin our collective quest to eradicate poverty and deprivation. The mobilisation of all resources, public and private, domestic and international, and their effective and innovative use will be vital.

We emphasise that, as underlined by the Monterrey Consensus, ODA continues to play an essential role, particularly in the lowest income countries, complementing other sources of financing for development. We urgently call on countries to meet their commitment towards achieving the target of 0.7% of GNI as ODA.

We call on countries to take national ownership in ensuring the acceleration of MDGs and to continue with efforts to source alternative financing. We also underline the importance of promoting democratic governance, the rule of law, transparency and accountability.

We support the intensive efforts being made in many countries to overcome bottlenecks in policy formulation, programming, data provision, and investment and service deliveries. We will take additional concrete steps to speed up these efforts, including through the MDG Acceleration Framework. We encourage the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) to intensify its actions aimed at MDG achievement across the UN system, and through reinforced collaboration with the World Bank.

We underline the need for the business sector to engage in responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the United Nations Global Compact.

Post-2015

In parallel with intensification of efforts to accelerate achievement of the MDGs, we are determined to craft an ambitious post-2015 agenda. It will build on the lessons learned of the MDGs, complete the unfinished business, and respond to new challenges.

As we take the work forward, we will continue to be inspired by the Millennium Declaration. We reaffirm the outcome document of Rio+20 and resolve to build on it in crafting a post-2015 agenda based on Rio principles.

We are resolved that the post-2015 agenda should have poverty eradication as its central and overarching goal. Recognising the intrinsic interlinkage between poverty eradication and promotion of sustainable development, we underline the need for a coherent approach which integrates the three strands of sustainable development. The post-2015 agenda should promote economic growth, equity and social inclusion, and environmental sustainability, in a balanced manner.

The coherent approach we call for should result in a single framework and set of Goals – it should be universal in nature and applicable in all countries, while taking account of differing national capacities and circumstances.

Roadmap

Today, we lay out a roadmap which will take us to the point of adoption of a new framework and set of goals in 2015. We decide to launch a process of intergovernmental negotiations under the General Assembly at the beginning of the 69th session of UNGA.

In the interim, much important preparatory work will already have taken place. We acknowledge with appreciation the establishment of the two working groups as defined in the Rio + 20 outcome document: the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the Expert Committee on a Sustainable Development Financing Strategy. We urge that both Groups should complete their work in a comprehensive, balanced and expeditious manner by September 2014. We also welcome the fact that the Secretary General's report of x July draws on inputs from the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons, United Nations Development Group consultations, the United Nations Global Compact, and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

Over the coming year, preparation of the post-2015 agenda will benefit from the General Assembly events to be convened by the President of the General Assembly under the theme "The Post-2015 Development Agenda – Setting the Stage". Additionally, a comprehensive stock-taking debate in Spring 2014 would enable the membership as a whole to maintain an overview of developments in the various processes.

In arriving at the post-2015 agenda, we look forward to working inclusively with all stakeholders including civil society, scientific and knowledge institutions, local authorities, the private sector and social partners.

We count on the strong support of the UN system throughout all our work. To assist in the intergovernmental negotiations to be initiated at the beginning of UNGA 69, we call on the Secretary General to synthesise the full range of inputs then available and to present a synthesis report by the end of 2014.

The final phase of the intergovernmental work will culminate in a summit at HoSG level in September 2015.