



UNDP SHINES SPOTLIGHT ON MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Side events underline aid challenges, role of private sector in effort to meet global poverty targets

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) links and coordinates global and national efforts to decrease poverty by 2015, as part of the worldwide campaign known as the Millennium Development Goals or MDGs. In its role as scorekeeper for the Goals, UNDP will organize a week-long series of activities in support of the 25 September High-Level Event on the MDGs convened by the UN Secretary-General and the President of the UN General Assembly where world leaders will review progress and translate their commitments into concrete actions, resources and mechanisms to bridge the gaps.

The UNDP events listed below are open to the media:

22 September

- *The MDG Africa Steering Group's Gleneagles Scenarios: An Approach for Scaling up ODA, 1:15-2:45 p.m. in Conference Room 8, UN Secretariat*—Participants include Deputy Secretary-General Asha Rose Migiro, Jeffrey Sachs of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the MDGs, Minister of Agriculture of Benin and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Rwanda.
- *A response to the World Food Crisis: Small Holder Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development in Africa, 3:00-5:30 p.m. in Conference Room 2, UN Secretariat*—Opening remarks by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon; Moustapha Soumaré, Acting Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa; H.E. Mr. Bingu Wa Mutharika, President of Malawi; Dr. Jacques Diouf, FAO Director General and Jeffrey Sachs of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the MDGs.

23 September

- *Local Poverty Reduction & MDG Localization: Scaling up the Achievement of MDGs, 12:00-3:30 p.m. in the Grand Hyatt Hotel*—Session moderated by UNDP Associate Administrator Ad Melkert.
- *Poverty Reduction, MDGs and the Environment: Progress and future action, 4:00-7:00 p.m. in the Grand Hyatt Hotel*—Participation of UNDP Associate Administrator Ad Melkert, keynote by Hon. Dr. Puka Temu, Deputy Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea.

24 September

- *UN Private Sector Forum. The MDGs and Food Sustainability, 12:00-2:30 p.m., in Delegates Dining*

Room, UN Secretariat □ Opening keynote by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and speech/remarks by UNDP Administrator Kemal Dervi □. Limited media space. Please register with Matthias Stausberg, Tel +1 917 367 3423, stausberg@un.org.

- *UN Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (UN REDD) Press Conference, 12:40-1:30 p.m. in Room 226, 2nd floor, UN Secretariat* □ Participation of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, UNDP Administrator Kemal Dervi □ and Prime Minister of Norway Jens Stoltenberg.
- *Launch of the UN Inter-Agency Report “MDGS: Towards the achievement of the right to health in Latin America and the Caribbean” (UN 2008), 3:00-5:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2, UN Secretariat* □ Featuring the First Lady of Peru, H.E. Mrs. Pilar Nores de García; Minister of Plan of Chile, H.E. Paola Quintana; Executive Secretary from ECLAC Alicia Barcena, and Regional Directors Rebeca Grynspan (UNDP), Nils Kastberg (UNICEF), Marcela Suazo (UNFPA), Pedro Medrano (WFP), Jean Maninat (ILO) and Socorro Gross (PAHO).
- *“MDG Achievement Fund: Lessons Learned and Way Forward”, 3:30-5:00 p.m. in Conference Room 3, UN Secretariat* □ Featuring UNDP Administrator Kemal Dervi □ and Prime Minister of Spain, H.E. José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, with H.E. Alvaro Colom, President of Guatemala; H.E. Armando Emilio Guebuza, President of the Republic of Mozambique; H.E. Bingu Wa Mutharika, President of Malawi (TBC); H.E. Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway; Douglas Alexander, UK Secretary of State for International Development and UNESCO Director-General Koichiro Matsuura.
- *2008 World Business and Development Award Ceremony and presentation of the Global Partnership for the Business Call to Action, 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Millennium UN Plaza Hotel*–. Remarks by Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan; President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal; UNDP Administrator Kemal Dervi □ UK Secretary of State for International Development Douglas Alexander. Mistress of Ceremonies, Femi Oke, International Broadcaster and senior Editor for Public Radio International’s “The Takeaway”. Still photos can be accessed www.bajornas.net/UNDP-WBDA-awards.

25 September

- *Liberia and Denmark Partnership Event “MDG3-gender equality and empowerment of women: a prerequisite for achieving all MDGs by 2015”, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Delegates Dining Room, UN Secretariat*–Featuring H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia and H.E. Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway and UNDP Administrator Kemal Dervi □.

Media enquiries, interview requests & registration for events outside of the UN: please contact Mariana Gonzalez, +1 212 906 5317, mariana.gonzalez@undp.org.

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About the MDGs: *The MDGs represent a global partnership that has grown from the commitments and targets established at the world summits of the 1990s. Responding to the world’s main development challenges and to the calls of civil society, the MDGs promote poverty reduction, education, maternal health, gender equality, and aim at combating child mortality, AIDS and other diseases. Set for the year 2015, the MDGs are an agreed set of goals that can be achieved if all actors work together and do their part. Poor countries have pledged to govern better, and invest in their people*

through health care and education. Rich countries have pledged to support them, through aid, debt relief, and fairer trade.

About UNDP: *UNDP is the UN's global development network, an organization advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. Working on the ground in 166 countries, the organization supports national partners to address development challenges and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. For further information about UNDP's work, please visit: www.undp.org*