

## Summary report on UN World Summit September

Judith Fraats  
October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010

### Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	3
SUMMARY OF GENERAL OUTCOMES .....	3
SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES CONCERNING PARTNERSHIPS.....	3
SUMMARY OF THE MEETING REPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM ON THE MDGS 22ND SEPTEMBER 2010 .....	7
BILATERAL DONORS' STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEVELOPMENT – IN MEETING REPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM.....	8
PRESS RELEASES OF THE UN .....	11
DOCUMENTS OF THE UN.....	11
INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASES .....	11
DUTCH NATIONAL PRESS RELEASES .....	12
BACKGROUND INFORMATION .....	12
USEFUL LINKS.....	12
ATTACHMENTS .....	13
UN PRESS RELEASES.....	13
“United Nations convenes world leaders to deliver on anti-poverty commitments” .....	13
“UN summit confident of achieving MDGs on time if world delivers on promises” .....	16
“UN Summit concludes with adoption of global action plan to achieve development goals by 2015”	18
“Smarter Partnerships in a complex world “Human rights central to achieving MDGs, UN human rights chief tells world leaders” .....	21
INTERNATIONAL NEWS/ NEWSPAPERS .....	23
“Uneven progress of UN Millennium Development Goals” .....	23
“Are the Millennium Development Goals really achievable?” .....	26
NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS.....	27
“Ban Ki-moon ziet vooral succesverhalen; Wereldleiders in New York zinnen op mogelijkheden om ontwikkelingsdoelen te halen” .....	27
“Millenniumdoelen zijn nog haalbaar” .....	29
“VN-top: Creatieve belastingen in strijd tegen armoede” .....	30
“Miljardenimpuls VN voor plan tegen armoede” .....	31
OPEN LETTERS .....	32
Open letter of Maxime Verhagen to Co-facilitators.....	32
Public opinion : Bedrijven onmisbaar in strijd tegen armoede .....	36
Open letter to the Dutch Government .....	38

BACKGROUND INFORMATION .....	43
“WBCSD joins major effort to accelerate progress on Millennium Development Goals” .....	43
“Strong endorsement for business role in Development at Private Sector Forum on the Millennium Development Goals” .....	45
“New UNDP report: How does inclusive business contribute to Millennium Development Goals?” ...	47
“MDGs: Business plays essential role in fight against poverty”.....	48
“Smarter partnerships for development” .....	50

## Introduction

This summary report provides an overview of main discussions and outputs of the United Nations World Summit in September 2010, in particular related to information regarding partnerships. The information provided in this report are obtained through an extensive internet search. The summary report contains information based on UN documents, press releases of the UN, international and national newspapers and relevant background information.

## Summary of general outcomes

**Date of world summit:** 20-22 September 2010, United Nations in New York

**Objective:** to accelerate progress towards all the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, taking into account the progress made towards the internationally agreed development goals.

The general tendency of this world summit was about if the confidence, to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, is still there. During the summit a global action plan has been set up in order to fulfill the MDGs by the end of 2015. These actions are an initiative of all the UN member state countries. Next to the action plan during the summit it has been stressed that there has been a great progress despite the crisis on fighting poverty.

General key points in the action plan are the following: promotion of sustainable development, promotion of food security, promotion of access to public and social services, promotion of effective public-private partnerships, addressing social /economic inequalities, expanding financial services to the poor, working towards greater transparency and accountability in international development cooperation, investing in the health of women and children, and enhancing the opportunities of women and girls.

Link: <http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/mdg%20outcome%20document.pdf>

## Summary of outcomes concerning Partnerships

In the action plan the following actions apply to partnerships:

- 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;
- 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 programs, 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.
- Promoting integrated waste management systems, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders and with international financial and technological support, as appropriate;
  - 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;
  - Increasing partnerships with businesses to achieve positive development outcomes by mobilizing private sector resources that contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
  - 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;
  - The US announced to set up a fund to support a public private partnership (Global alliance for Clean Cook stoves) led by the UN Foundation, which strives to install 100 million clean-burning stoves in kitchens around the world.
  - Goal 8 of the MDGs is focused on global partnerships for development, wherein the EU and the Belgian government offered a fund to make progress on the goals.

Effective global partnerships are crucial in achieving the MDGs by 2015. In order to do this mutual accountability of all stakeholders, donor- and developing country governments, non-governmental actors, the private sector and foundations is required.

Link:<http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/Background%20Notes%20RT6%20Partnerships%20Rev2%20PGAfinal.pdf>

In order to support and promote sustainable development partnerships can be used as a way to promote the transfer of skills, knowledge and technologies. Partnerships can leverage mutual learning, including South-South learning, promote lessons learned from best practices, facilitate the adaptation of new technologies, encourage cost-effective methods, and enable broad stakeholder participation.

Link:<http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/Background%20Notes%20RT3%20SustainableDevelopment%20Rev%20PGAfinal.pdf>

Partnerships can overcome the current institutional and resource constraints (regarding health and education) by creating partnerships with the private sector, non-governmental organizations and others. This can reduce funding constraints and ensure that effective health interventions reach the communities with the greatest disease burdens, especially in conflict situations. Besides partnerships can help in prioritizing specific regions or vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as the poor, rural populations, pregnant women and young people.

Link:<http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/Background%20Notes%20RT2%20Health%20Education%20Rev%20PGA2final.pdf>

According to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, MDG8 entails a global partnership for achieving the MDGs. Navi Pillay describes this as a “new deal under which richer and poorer countries agree to joint efforts” in an “unprecedented global compact for poverty reduction”. Global partnerships to reach the MDGs should explicitly prioritize the needs and rights of the poorest and most marginalized, and mandate positive measures, in order to level the playing field, said by Pillay.

Looking at the fact sheet provided by the UN on MDG8 it stresses the importance of cooperation with the (1) pharmaceutical sector; to provide access to less affordable, essential drugs in developing countries, and (2) the private sector; to make available benefits of new technologies, especially ICTs.

As stressed before in order to be able to achieve the MDGs by 2015 it is necessary for the development community to work together in partnerships. The OECD is building smarter partnerships across a range of development issues:

- Working Party on Aid Effectiveness: since its inception in 2003, it has evolved into the international partnership for aid effectiveness with 80 participants including bilateral and multilateral donors, aid recipients, emerging providers of development assistance, civil society organisations, global programmes, the private sector, and parliaments.
- Informal Task Force on Tax and Development: this 2010 initiative aims to strengthen tax systems in developing countries, and works to ensure fair taxation of multinationals in developing countries, implement information exchange agreements with tax havens and evaluate reporting requirements for multinational enterprises.
- International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding: since 2008, it has worked to establish international objectives for peacebuilding and statebuilding in countries affected by conflict and fragility. The first such dialogue that gives fragile states a voice, it defines realistic objectives, sets the agenda for international support for peacebuilding and statebuilding, and helps ensure that the money that goes into fragile states meets specific needs.
- The PARIS21 Consortium: established, dynamic and international, its main aim is to support the production and use of statistics for economic and social development and to promote better governance. The main thrust of PARIS21’s work — assisting developing countries to design, implement, and monitor National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) — has become the international benchmark for strategic planning in statistics

Link:[http://www.oecd.org/document/37/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_33721\\_34087845\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html#Building](http://www.oecd.org/document/37/0,3343,en_2649_33721_34087845_1_1_1_1,00.html#Building)

Actions which will enable building smarter partnerships for development:

- **Inclusive partnerships**: Real, effective and equal partnerships so that all stakeholders can shape political decision-making for development
- **Sharing knowledge**: A shared understanding of what works and what doesn’t work, based on technical expertise, evidence, statistics and good practice
- **Peer pressure**: Monitoring and gathering evidence to inform policy; upholding commitments and promoting best practice
- **Mutual accountability**: All stakeholders work towards common objectives, based on joint monitoring and review, in line with the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action
- **Linking global and national priorities**: Providing a platform for dialogue on development at

country level with strong links to global and regional institutions and processes

Link:[http://www.oecd.org/document/20/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_3236398\\_46032724\\_1\\_1\\_1,1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/20/0,3343,en_2649_3236398_46032724_1_1_1,1,00.html)

## **Summary of the meeting report of the private sector forum on the MDGs 22nd September 2010**

Ban Ki-moon emphasizes increasing the collaboration between governments and businesses to bring solutions and innovations to advance the MDGs to scale. During the world summit commitments for each goal are identified, these are a variety in actions and projects, which can be independently or in partnership with other organizations. Forward-thinking partnerships that create favorable markets, by an innovative spirit of the private sector and public-private partnerships. The UN can be of help establishing these partnerships, by facilitating relations between local communities, governments and global funds/donors. The meeting report stresses that more communication should occur between governments and international development banks to create more tailored conditions for global development funds. In the meeting report actions and commitments (who is committed) are identified for each goal; in short the following actions regarding partnerships are undertaken:

- Poverty & hunger → undertake new type of public-private partnerships and business models that extend supply chains and create employment and incomes for low-income populations.
- Maternal and child health and HIV/AIDS → undertake public-private partnerships that help to improve access to health services, contribute to ensuring that health facilities are fully functional, create demand for health services through innovative approaches, use new technologies and approaches to address gaps in health information and reporting.
- Empowering women and achieving equality → undertake public-private partnerships to advance and finance gender equality.

Source: Meeting report United Nations Private Sector Forum on the Millennium Development Goals 22 September 2010, New York.

Link:[http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news\\_events/meeting\\_reports/UN\\_Private\\_Sector\\_Forum\\_MDGs\\_Report.pdf](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news_events/meeting_reports/UN_Private_Sector_Forum_MDGs_Report.pdf)

# **Bilateral Donors' Statement in Support of Private Sector Partnerships for Development – in Meeting report of the private sector forum**

"As members of the international bilateral donor community, we recognize the tremendous impact that private sector actors can have on development and we commit to working together to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These objectives have been previously outlined in the Millennium Development Goal– Develop a Global Partnership for Development. In the ten years since the MDGs were established, the international community has made great progress in developing partnerships with business and we come together today to renew and give greater meaning to our commitment.

1. We recognize that the private sector is the engine of economic growth and development – creating jobs, goods and services and generating public revenues essential to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Through our individual institutions we are engaging actively with both local and international businesses on development projects and we have many successes to demonstrate the value of those relationships.
2. We also recognize the important role that multilateral institutions and business organizations, including the UN Global Compact, continue to play in advancing sustainable business models and markets to build an inclusive global economy.
3. Rather than viewing the private sector merely as resource providers, we choose to recognize the private sector as *equal partners around key development issues and will enter into partnerships with local and international companies of various sizes*. We aim to collaborate with companies that focus not only on profit margin, but also on social and environmental impact, and whose work harmonizes with our developmental goals.
4. We recognize there are many different ways to engage with the private sector:
  - We work with the private sector to implement **inclusive business models – sustainable, market based solutions** that are commercially viable and can deliver measurable, impactful and scalable development results for those at the base of the pyramid.
  - We work with the private sector to promote **responsible business practices** in areas such as human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption.
  - We work with the private sector to address operational and humanitarian challenges through **corporate social responsibility** programs which serve both development interests and long-term business interests, improving not only the quality of life in developing countries, but also the competitive environment for companies, their license to operate and their reputational capital.
  - We actively engage the private sector in **public-private policy dialogue** and advocacy around issues of global and national importance, including achieving the MDGs, addressing climate change, improving the investment climate and enhancing aid effectiveness.

5. While there are various ways of engaging with the private sector, we recognize certain common elements exist throughout all our partnerships. In particular, we believe true partnerships must leverage the skills, expertise and resources of all parties, and that all parties must share in the risks and rewards of the partnership.

6. We recognize the important role donors can play to help businesses overcome the challenges they face in contributing to the MDGs, including the culture shift required in balancing development objectives against maximizing return on investment, moving to inclusive business models, managing risk and measuring impact.

7. To foster a more robust private sector role in development, we as donors commit to:

- Share the risk of investment to **spur and leverage the creative investments of private capital** through the use of catalytic and innovative financing, including matching grants, loans, equity and guarantees, and develop new partnership mechanisms which improve our collaboration.
- Work with developing country governments to establish a **supportive enabling environment** through policy and regulatory frameworks that create incentives for stronger private sector participation in development.
- **Facilitate stronger relationships** between private sector actors and other national stakeholders, including governments, civil society and local small and medium enterprises to support country ownership.
- **Promote partnerships** that improve the lives of both men and women in order to secure equal opportunities.
- **Build the capacity** of local private sector partners to develop socially responsible business initiatives by providing targeted technical assistance.
- **Increase awareness** through facilitating dialogue, developing tools, and supporting learning which showcases the powerful and positive role that well-functioning inclusive markets can play in achieving the MDGs.

8. We recognize the important role that science and technology play in spurring creative and effective development solutions. The private sector is a key driver of innovation, and we will work to integrate these innovations into our programs.

9. We recognize that partnerships with the private sector have the greatest impact when they are strategic – programs become scalable and sustainable when they are integrated into broader strategic initiatives.

10. We are committed to working with the least developed countries and countries struggling in conflict and fragility, as well as with middle income countries with thriving private sectors.

11. We are committed to the Principles of Aid Effectiveness as detailed in the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action and will explore how these principles intersect with the work of these partnership communities.

12. We encourage the private sector to commit to an ever increasing role in and responsibility for international development and invite businesses to further shape our understanding of the roles they can play as development partners, so that jointly we can promote a lasting global partnership for development.

*Signed by: Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, United States of America, United Kingdom, Sweden, Switzerland*

Source: Meeting report United Nations Private Sector Forum on the Millennium Development Goals 22 September, 2010, New York

Link:[http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news\\_events/meeting\\_reports/UN\\_Private\\_Sector\\_Forum\\_MDGs\\_Report.pdf](http://www.unglobalcompact.org/docs/news_events/meeting_reports/UN_Private_Sector_Forum_MDGs_Report.pdf)

## Press releases of the UN

- “United Nations convenes world leaders to deliver on anti-poverty commitments”  
Link: [http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/MDG2010\\_PR\\_EN.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/MDG2010_PR_EN.pdf)
- “UN summit confident of achieving MDGs on time if world delivers on promises”  
Link: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=36074&Cr=mdg&Cr1=#>
- “UN Summit concludes with adoption of global action plan to achieve development goals by 2015”  
Link: [http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/Closing%20press%20release%20FINAL\\_AL-FINAL.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/Closing%20press%20release%20FINAL_AL-FINAL.pdf)
- Smarter Partnerships in a Complex World: The Potential of MDG 8  
Link: <http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/mdg%20press%20release.pdf>

## Documents of the UN

- Fact sheet goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development  
Link: [http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/MDG\\_FS\\_8\\_EN.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/MDG_FS_8_EN.pdf)
- Stronger Development Partnership, Better Market Access, Improved Governance Seen as Vital for Developing Countries to Achieve Millennium Development Goals (21 September 2010) Link: <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2010/ga10989.doc.htm>
- Report of the MDG GAP Task Force: “Millennium development goal 8: The global partnership for development at a critical juncture”  
Link: [http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/10-43282\\_MDG\\_2010%20\(E\)%20WEBv2.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/10-43282_MDG_2010%20(E)%20WEBv2.pdf)
- The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010  
Link: <http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010/pdf/MDG%20Report%202010%20En%20r15%20-low%20res%2020100615%20-.pdf>

## International press releases

- BBC world news: “Uneven progress millennium development goals”  
Link: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-11364717>
- BBC world news: “Are the Millennium Development Goals really achievable?”  
Link: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/2010/09/100920\\_mdg\\_douane.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/2010/09/100920_mdg_douane.shtml)

## Dutch national press releases

- NRC Handelsblad: “Ban Ki-Moon ziet vooral succesverhalen; Wereldleiders in New York zinnen op mogelijkheden om ontwikkelingsdoelen te halen”  
Link:<http://archief.nrc.nl/index.php/2010/September/21/Buitenland/05/Ban+Ki-moon+ziet+vooral+succesverhalen>
- De Volkskrant: “Millenniumdoelen zijn nog haalbaar”  
Link:[http://www.volkskrant.nl/buitenland/article1421533.ece/Millenniumdoelen\\_zijn\\_nog\\_haalbaar](http://www.volkskrant.nl/buitenland/article1421533.ece/Millenniumdoelen_zijn_nog_haalbaar)
- Algemeen Dagblad: “VN Top: Creatieve belastingen in strijd met armoede”  
Link: <http://www.ad.nl/ad/nl/1013/Buitenland/article/detail/514124/2010/09/22/VN-top-Creatieve-belastingen-in-strijd-tegen-armoede.dhtml>
- Algemeen Dagblad/Trouw: “Miljardenimpuls VN voor plan tegen armoede”  
Link:<http://www.ad.nl/ad/nl/1013/Buitenland/article/detail/514183/2010/09/22/Miljardenimpuls-VN-voor-plan-tegen-armoede.dhtml>

## Background information

- “WBCSD joins major effort to accelerate progress on Millennium Development Goals”  
Link:<http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectId=Mzg2NzY>
- “Strong endorsement for business role in Development at Private Sector Forum on the Millennium Development Goals”  
Link:<http://www.inclusivebusiness.org/2010/09/wbcsd-private-sector-forum-2010-on-the-millennium-development-goals.html>
- “New UNDP report: How does inclusive business contribute to Millennium Development Goals?”  
Link: <http://www.inclusivebusiness.org/2010/09/the-mdgs-are-everyones-business.html>
- “MDGs: Business plays essential role in fight against poverty”  
Link: <http://oecdinsights.org/2010/09/23/2054/>
- “Smarter partnerships for development”  
Link:[http://www.oecd.org/document/20/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_3236398\\_46032724\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/20/0,3343,en_2649_3236398_46032724_1_1_1_1,00.html)

## Useful links

- IISD Reporting services, daily summary reports;  
<http://www.iisd.ca/ymb/mdg/summit2010/20sep.html>
- United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS);  
[http://www.un-ncls.org/spip.php?page=article\\_s&id\\_article=1963](http://www.un-ncls.org/spip.php?page=article_s&id_article=1963)

# Attachments

## UN PRESS RELEASES

### "United Nations convenes world leaders to deliver on anti-poverty commitments"

13 September 2010

Civil society and business leaders join Summit to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015

#### PRESS RELEASE

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 13 SEPTEMBER — Heads of State, joined by leaders from civil society organizations, foundations and the private sector, will meet at the United Nations from 20 to 22 September to spur collective action against extreme poverty, hunger and disease.

The United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) — officially a High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly — will bring together world leaders to commit to an action agenda to achieve the eight anti-poverty goals by their 2015 target date.

Almost 150 Heads of State and Government are expected to attend the Summit, convened by the UN General Assembly and chaired by the Assembly's incoming and outgoing presidents, H.E. Joseph Deiss (Switzerland) and H.E. Dr. Ali Abdussalam Treki (Libya), just prior to its annual high-level debate.

Ten years after world leaders committed to the Goals laid out in the Millennium Declaration — and with only five years left until the 2015 target date for achieving the Goals — the Summit comes at a crucial time to galvanize commitments and accelerate progress.

"We must not fail the billions who look to the international community to fulfil the promise of the Millennium Declaration for a better world," UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in his report, Keeping the Promise, issued earlier this year as a basis for the intergovernmental negotiations on the Summit outcome document. "Our world possesses the knowledge and the resources to achieve the MDGs," Mr. Ban said. Falling short of the Goals "would be an unacceptable failure, moral and practical."

#### A MIXED PICTURE

A number of countries have achieved major successes in fighting poverty, improving school enrolment and child health, expanding access to clean water, strengthening control of malaria and tuberculosis, and providing increased access to HIV treatment, according to the UN Millennium Development Goals Report 2010, the latest progress report on the Goals. These successes have taken place in some of the poorest countries, demonstrating that the MDGs are indeed achievable with the right policies, adequate levels of investment and international support.

Yet progress has been uneven and — without additional efforts — several of the Goals are likely to be missed in many countries, according to the report. Around 1.4 billion people still subsist on less than \$1.25 a day, the international poverty line defined by the World Bank. Around one billion people suffer from hunger. Almost nine million children die each year before they reach their fifth birthday, hundreds of thousands of women die due to complications of pregnancy or child birth every year, and only half of the developing world's population has access to improved sanitation, such as toilets or latrines.

The challenges are most severe in the least developed countries, land-locked developing

countries, small island developing states, countries in or emerging from conflict, and those most affected by climate change.

"It is clear that improvements in the lives of the poor have been unacceptably slow, and some hard-won gains are being eroded by the climate, food and economic crises," the UN Secretary-General said.

The economic crisis took a heavy toll on jobs and incomes around the world and severely impacted the ability of the poor to feed their families, according to the MDG Report 2010.

Moreover, many donor countries, concerned with large fiscal deficits and rising debts in the wake of the global economic crisis, are taking fiscal austerity measures. "But economic uncertainty cannot be an excuse for slowing down our development efforts," Secretary-General Ban said. "By investing in the MDGs, we invest in global economic growth."

According to the 2010 report by the Secretary-General's MDG Gap Task Force, The Global Partnership for Development at a Critical Juncture, aid flows reached an all-time high in dollar amounts, at \$120 billion, in 2009, but still fall short of the promises made at the 2005 Group of Eight (G8) Gleneagles meeting and the longstanding UN target of 0.7 per cent of donor countries' annual income.

"Meeting the goals is everyone's business," Mr. Ban said. Falling short would multiply the dangers of our world — from instability to epidemic diseases to environmental degradation."

#### ACTION ON WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH

The Summit will start with an opening session featuring statements by the General Assembly Presidents, the Secretary-General, a representative from the United States (as the UN host country), the President of the UN Economic and Social Council, and the heads of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization, UN Conference on Trade and Development and UN Development Programme.

The subsequent plenary meetings — one on each morning and each afternoon over the three days — will feature statements by Heads of State and Government. Representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations and the private sector, selected during the preparatory process leading up to the Summit, will be among the speakers at the closing session.

Parallel to the plenary meetings, six roundtable sessions — one each morning and afternoon — will allow leaders to have more in-depth discussions on the themes of poverty, hunger and gender equality; health and education; sustainable development; emerging issues and evolving approaches; the special needs of the most vulnerable; and widening and strengthening partnerships. The roundtable sessions, which will include representatives of NGOs, civil society organizations and the private sector, are open only to the participants. Summaries of the deliberations will be presented at the closing plenary meeting.

The Summit is expected to conclude with the adoption of an action agenda for achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, including steps to be taken to advance progress on each Goal.

In addition, a number of high-profile partnership events, bringing together leaders from Governments, the UN system, civil society, foundations and the private sector, are expected to result in announcements of new initiatives and actions, including on women's and children's health.

In a special event from 2:30 to 4:00pm on 22 September, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, together with leaders from Governments, foundations, NGOs and business, is expected to launch a Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, setting out key actions to improve the health of women and children worldwide, with the potential of saving 16 million lives by

2015. "For too long, maternal and child health has been at the back of the MDG train, but we know it can be the engine of development," Mr. Ban said earlier this year. "We must accelerate progress on the MDGs — and there is no issue that can better jumpstart that effort."

The UN Secretary-General will also chair a Private Sector Forum on 22 September, bringing Chief Executive Officers together with Government and civil society leaders to highlight actions the private sector can take to boost progress on the MDGs and announce new partnerships in support of the Goals.

The last day of the Summit (22 September) will be held in parallel with a high-level General Assembly meeting on biodiversity, followed by the opening of the annual high-level debate (23 September) and a special two-day meeting on the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States (24-25 September).

For more information on the Summit and a complete list of partnership events, please visit: [www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010](http://www.un.org/en/mdg/summit2010). For more information on the Millennium Development Goals, please see: [www.un.org/millenniumgoals](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals). For a live webcast of the Summit and related press conferences, please see [www.un.org/webcast](http://www.un.org/webcast).

For general media information, contact the UN Department of Public Information: Pragati Pascale, Tel: +1 212 963 6870, e-mail: [pascale@un.org](mailto:pascale@un.org) Martina Donlon, Tel: +1 212 963 6816, e-mail: [donlon@un.org](mailto:donlon@un.org) Newton Kanhema, Tel: +1 212 963 5602, e-mail: [kanhema@un.org](mailto:kanhema@un.org)

For interviews, story ideas and other information on the MDGs, please consult the list of inter-agency communications officials in the press kit and on the event website.

For information on media accreditation and access, please contact: Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit, UN Department of Public Information. Tel: 212-963-6934, Fax: 212-963-4642, or online at [www.un.org/media/accreditation](http://www.un.org/media/accreditation).

**"UN summit confident of achieving MDGs on time if world delivers on promises"**

22 September 2010 –

While expressing deep concern that progress has fallen far short of what is needed, a United Nations summit on the Millennium Development Goals ([MDGs](#)) today voiced confidence that with renewed global commitment the targets to slash hunger, poverty, disease and a host of other social ills can still be achieved by 2015.

“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,” the summit, attended by some 140 heads of State and government, pledged in a final outcome document.

The 31-page [document](#), which touched on virtually every aspect of global issues beyond the headings of each of the eight MDGs, from human rights to corruption to climate change, focussed particularly on actions, policies and strategies to support those developing countries that are lagging most behind and those goals that are most off track, thus improving the lives of the poorest people.

“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,” the outcome document said.

“We reaffirm the need for a strong United Nations to meet the challenges of the changing global environment,” it added, calling especially for more attention to be paid to Africa, in particular to the countries there that are most off track for meeting the goals by 2015.

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, who made the summit a focal point of his activities in recent months and opened its first session on Monday with an impassioned appeal to Member States to provide the necessary investment, aid and political will to meet the goals, called the gathering “the most significant global development conference” since the UN Millennium Summit laid out the MDGs 10 years ago.

In achieving the goals, it stressed the vital need to promote human rights, resist protectionist trade tendencies confront the challenges of peacebuilding and early recovery in post-conflict countries.

It dealt with each MDG separately, with dozens of recommendations on each. On MDG-1, which seeks to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, the outcome document called for addressing the root causes, pursuing job-intensive and equitable economic growth to promote full employment, and promoting the empowerment and participation of rural women as critical agents for enhancing agricultural development and food security.

Achieving universal primary education, MDG-2, requires removal of barriers outside and within education systems and strengthening the sustainability and predictability of funding for national education systems.

On MDG-3, promoting gender equality and empowerment of women, the summit called for the removal of barriers for the education of girls, the provision of free primary schooling, financial aid, policies to end discrimination and empowering women through social and economic policies.

The outcome document called for integrated management of childhood illnesses, enhanced vaccination programmes, improved nutrition, increased use of insecticide-treated bed nets to

combat malaria and a stepped up fight against pneumonia and diarrhoea to achieve MDG-4, reducing child mortality by two thirds.

For MDG-5, reducing maternal mortality by three quarters, the summit stressed the need to address reproductive, maternal and child health, including newborn health, in a comprehensive manner through the provision of family planning, prenatal care, skilled attendants at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care, with access to and choice of the widest possible range of safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning.

A significant intensification of prevention efforts and increased access to treatment with the support of the international community us essential for achieving MDG-6, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

On ensuring environmental sustainability, MDG-7, the leaders called on States to take urgent global action to address climate change in accordance with the principles identified in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change ([UNFCCC](#)), and to implement UN treaties that fight desertification and seek to sustain biological diversity.

Finally, the summit declared that fulfilment of all official development assistance (ODA) commitments, including those by affluent countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) for ODA to developing countries by 2015 is crucial for achieving MDG-8, developing a global partnership for development.

These commitments include reaching at least 0.5 per cent of GNP by 2010, with a target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent to least developed countries.

“Today we close the most significant global development conference since the Millennium Summit ten years ago,” Mr. Ban [told reporters](#) as the gathering was winding up. “And we open the final five-year push until 2015.”

He cited the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, which he launched today, as an example of global resolve backed by \$40 billion in resources and many ambitious pledges from governments, international organizations, philanthropists, civil communities and business entrepreneurs.

“The main message I take away from this summit is the collective will to step up,” he said. “To step up our action. To step up to our responsibilities and commitments. To step up our progress because the MDGs will help us all step into a better world.”

**"UN Summit concludes with adoption of global action plan to achieve development goals by 2015"**

Secretary-General secures more than \$40 billion for women's and children's health

UNITED NATIONS, New York, 22 September — A United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) concluded today with the adoption of a global action plan to achieve the eight anti-poverty goals by their 2015 target date and the announcement of major new commitments for women's and children's health and other initiatives against poverty, hunger and disease.

The outcome document of the three-day Summit – Keeping the Promise: United to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals – reaffirms world leaders' commitment to the MDGs and sets out a concrete action agenda for achieving the Goals by 2015. Based on examples of success and lessons learned over the last ten years, the document spells out specific steps to be taken by all stakeholders to accelerate progress on each of the eight Goals. It also affirms that, despite setbacks due to the economic and financial crises, remarkable progress has been made on fighting poverty, increasing school enrolment and improving health in many countries, and the Goals remain achievable.

In a major push to accelerate progress on women's and children's health, a number of Heads of State and Government from developed and developing countries, along with the private sector, foundations, international organizations, civil society and research organizations, pledged over \$40 billion in resources over the next five years. The Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health – a concerted worldwide effort initiated by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon – has the potential of saving the lives of more than 16 million women and children, preventing 33 million unwanted pregnancies, protecting 120 million children from pneumonia and 88 million children from stunting due to malnutrition, advancing the control of deadly diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDS, and ensuring access for women and children to quality health facilities and skilled health workers.

"We know what works to save women's and children's lives, and we know that women and children are critical to all of the MDGs," Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said. "Today we are witnessing the kind of leadership we have long needed."

In addition, a number of other significant commitments on each of the eight Goals were made by Governments, international organizations and partners as well as by business representatives at the Private Sector Forum organized by the UN Global Compact. Below is a selection, based on information available as of mid-afternoon today:

**Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger**

- The World Bank will increase its support to agriculture to between \$6 billion and \$8 billion a year over the next three years, up from \$4.1 billion annually before 2008, under its Agriculture Action Plan to help boost incomes, employment and food security in many low-income areas.

- The Republic of Korea pledged \$100 million to support food security and agriculture in developing countries.
- Chile announced an Ethical Family Income initiative, to be launched in 2011, to supplement the income of the

poorest families and those in the vulnerable middle class.

- Monster.com committed to expand access to job opportunities for rural youth in India by promoting access to RozgarDuniya.com, an Internet job portal, in 40,000 villages across nine states in India.

**Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education**

- The World Bank will increase its zero-interest and grant investment in basic education by

an additional \$750 million, with a focus on the countries that are not on track to reach the education MDGs by 2015, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.

- Dell committed to give \$10 million towards education technology initiatives this year.

#### PRESS RELEASEGoal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

• The Earth Institute, Ericsson and Millennium Promise launched Connect To Learn, a non-profit global education initiative to improve the access to and quality of secondary education for children around the world — especially girls. Connect To Learn provides three-year scholarships to attend secondary school and covers tuition, books, uniforms as well as access to broadband technology. The first 100 scholarships will be provided in Millennium Villages in Ghana and Tanzania within the next 100 days.

• UPS International pledged \$2 million to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to empower women through leadership and environmental sustainability programmes in 145 countries.

• ExxonMobil committed to \$1 million in a partnership with Ashoka's Changemakers, the International Council for Research on Women and Thunderbird Emerging Markets Laboratory to support technologies that help women increase their productivity and participate more effectively in the economy. The programme is expected to directly benefit more than 13,500 people, with indirect benefits reaching more than 475,000 in the next two years.

#### Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality and Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health

• See the detailed list of commitments for the \$40 billion in resources pledged for the Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health posted on [www.un.org/sg/globalstrategy](http://www.un.org/sg/globalstrategy).

• Canada reaffirmed its commitment to mobilize more than \$10 billion from G8 and non-G8 leaders, key donors and private foundations over the next five years through the Muskoka Initiative for maternal, newborn and child health adopted at the G8 Summit.

• Trinidad and Tobago announced the launch of a Children's Life Fund to provide emergency medical care and surgery for children for medical procedures that cannot be accessed in Trinidad and Tobago.

• LifeSpring Hospitals committed to provide an estimated 82,000 Indian women and their families with access to quality healthcare. Over the next five years, LifeSpring will increase the number of hospitals serving mothers and children throughout India from 9 to 200, which will improve overall standards of care and reduce rates of maternal and childhood deaths.

#### Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases

• France announced funding of \$1.4 billion to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for 2011- 2013, an increase of 20 per cent. It is the first of a number of pledges expected ahead of the Global Fund's replenishment meeting on 4-5 October. [Note: 46 per cent of this pledge – the portion directly attributable to women's and children's health – is included in the \$40 billion for the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health.]

• The United Kingdom announced a tripling in its financial contributions to fight malaria, increasing its funds for malaria from £150 million a year to £500 million by 2014.

• The World Bank announced an increase in the scope of its results-based health programmes by more than \$600 million until 2015 to scale up essential health and nutrition services and strengthen the underlying health systems in 35 countries, particularly in East Asia, South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

• Sumitomo Chemical committed to donate 400,000 of its anti-malarial Olyset Nets to every Millennium Village from 2010-2011. This follows its previous donation in 2006 of 330,000 nets.

#### Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

• The United States announced a commitment of \$50.82 million over the next five years for

a Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, a public-private partnership led by the United Nations Foundation seeking to install 100 million clean-burning stoves in kitchens around the world.

- Cameroon announced an Energy Sector Development Programme to double energy production by 2015 and triple it by 2020.
- WaterHealth International committed to build 75 water purification plants in Bangladesh and expand its existing network of water purification plants to an additional 100 villages in India, providing access to clean water for 175,000 people in under-served communities in Bangladesh and India.
- PepsiCo committed to ensure access to clean water for 3 million people around the world by 2015.

#### Goal 8: Global Partnership for Development

- The European Union offered funding amounting to €1 billion to the most committed and needy countries to make progress on the goals they are furthest from achieving.
- Belgium pledged €400,000 for the Fourth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, to take place in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2011.

"Smarter Partnerships in a complex world "Human rights central to achieving MDGs, UN human rights chief tells world leaders"

22 September 2010

NEW YORK -- As world leaders gathered Monday in New York to decide how to accelerate progress to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), they were reminded by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, that countries are more likely to achieve their goals by taking a human rights approach to their development commitments.

Many commitments world leaders have made in the past "regrettably remain only paper promises," she said, adding that in order to ensure their pledges are translated into deeds, governments need to adhere to the obligations and responsibilities they have all accepted under international human rights law.

Speaking at the United Nations, the High Commissioner focused on the potential of MDG8, which mandates a global partnership for achieving the MDGs. She described this as a "new deal under which richer and poorer countries agree to join efforts" in an "unprecedented global compact for poverty reduction."

"How can we ensure that the promise of MDG8 is fulfilled?" she asked, noting that many of the pledges contained in the Summit's draft Outcome document, intended to hasten progress towards achieving the MDGs by 2015, are not new.

"The strong emphasis on human rights in the draft Outcome document can fill many critical gaps," Pillay said. The Outcome document, which is expected to be adopted by the Summit on Wednesday evening, contains a number of explicit references to human rights, including the right to development. These would help ensure that implementation of the MDGs be done in accordance with States' human rights obligations.

Currently, with their emphasis on global averages and targets, the MDGs often neglect large segments of the world's population. For example, MDG1 aims to halve the proportion of people suffering from hunger. But even if this target is reached, it would still leave over 400 million people hungry. Some groups of people, such as children, minorities and others who suffer from racial or other forms of discrimination, are increasingly being left behind. This inequality is exacerbated by development policies that do not reach those most in need and thus fail to close the poverty gap.

Human rights principles, such as equality, non-discrimination and meaningful participation, must drive government's aid and development policies, Pillay said. Global partnerships to reach the MDGs should explicitly prioritize the needs and rights of the poorest and most marginalized, and mandate positive measures, in order to level the playing field. The Summit Outcome document contains many illustrations of this 20 September 2010 approach, she said, noting that it acknowledges "that all member states are bound to respect internationally recognized human rights in their development and aid policies."

This means that, at a minimum, governments should undertake a human rights impact assessment of their policy measures, she said. "The science of this is not new," she added. "The most significant constraint is a lack of political will."

ENDS To see the full text of the High Commissioner's statement go to

<http://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=10350&LangID=e>

For more information on MDGs and Human Rights, please go to:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/millenium-development/index.htm> or contact: Fred

Kirungi, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Tel: +1 917 367 3431, Cell phone: +1 917 421 2338, Email:[kirungi@un.org](mailto:kirungi@un.org)

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS/ NEWSPAPERS

### "Uneven progress of UN Millennium Development Goals"

BBC World news 20 September 2010 Last updated at 17:31 GMT

The target for reducing poverty is likely to be met, but not all will benefit

World leaders are descending on the UN headquarters in New York for a display of commitment to reduce sharply global poverty and hunger. The summit aims to take stock of progress on eight UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) adopted 10 years ago, and redouble efforts to meet them by 2015. BBC UN correspondent Barbara Plett looks at the issues officials will face.

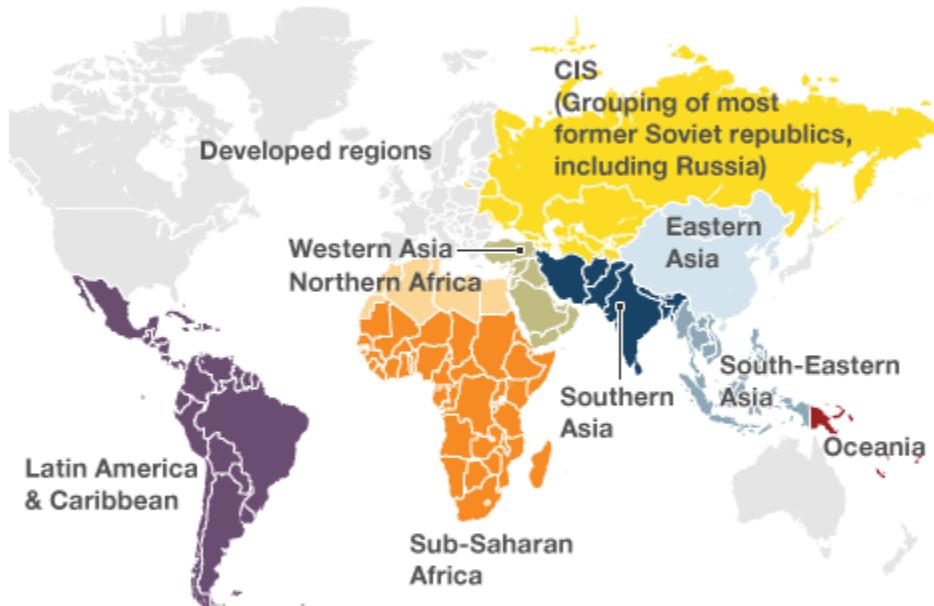
The United Nations is billing this as a high-stakes event.

"The path that will be set at the summit will determine the direction and results, success or failure, of the entire MDG venture," says Olav Kjorven, a senior official in the UN's main development agency, the UNDP.

"With five years to go, it's a moment of truth for the whole international community."

### **Millennium Development Goals – how close are we?**

The UN's regional groupings



A complete list of countries included in each region and subregion is available at [mdgs.un.org](http://mdgs.un.org)

The Millennium Development Goals aim to tackle global poverty and improve living standards for developing countries. We've taken key indicators, broken down by UN-defined regions as shown here, and set the 2015 target as a baseline to reveal the true picture of how each region is faring. The truth is that poverty has fallen, but progress has been uneven, and most of the goals are off-target to meet the deadline.

One of them - halving world poverty - is likely to be met, largely because of robust economic growth in China and India. But less has been achieved on others, such as decreasing hunger, improving access to health and education, and helping mothers and children.

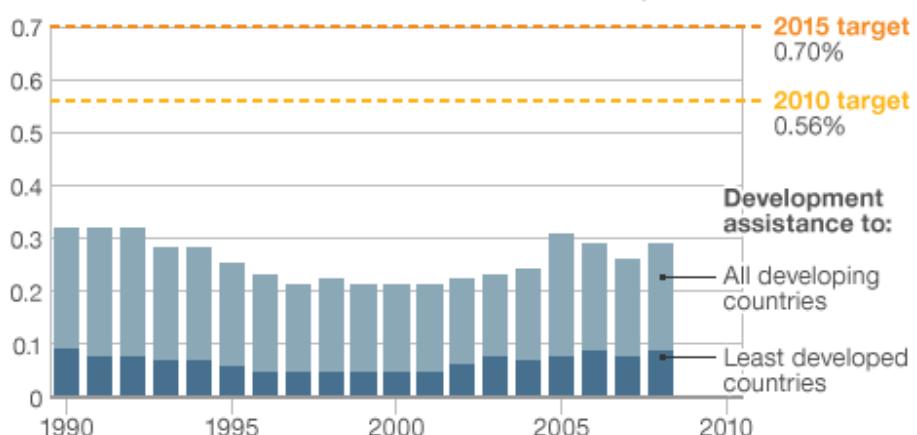
## Success stories

Many countries do have success stories to tell.

African farmers, for instance, have seen enormous benefits from seed and fertiliser subsidies. Such interventions turned Malawi from staving off famine in 2005 to harvesting crop surpluses. There are also plenty of failures. World hunger is on the rise since the adoption of the UN goals, with nearly a billion people suffering. And the number of women who die in childbirth every year is still in the hundreds of thousands, falling far short of the UN goal to cut maternal deaths by three quarters.

## Development assistance to developing countries falls short

Net official development assistance as % of 1% of donors' gross national income



Source: UN

One reason for failure is that, although the amount of development assistance has increased over the past decade, the richest states have failed to meet their commitment to donate 0.7% of gross national income.

Of the so-called G-8 countries, the United Kingdom gives the highest level of aid at 0.51% and Italy the lowest at 0.15%. The US is not far behind at 0.20%, although given the size of its economy, it supplies the highest volume of development assistance.

G8 countries also failed to meet a promise to double aid to Africa by 2010, made at a summit in Gleneagles, in Scotland, five years ago.

They maintain that it is due to the global financial crisis. But there was a shortfall well before the crash, says Jeffrey Sachs, an MDG adviser to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.

"One could say there was a certain lack of seriousness in this process from the start," he says. "In 2007 and 2008 I would say [to G8 officials], what about Gleneagles? You have a commitment, 2010 is very explicit. And very senior officials in the German government would say to me, 'Oh Professor Sachs, you don't think they're going to be honoured, do you?'"

## Practical steps

Prof Sachs also argues that the aid which is given could be used much more effectively.

Start quote: "The MDGs have been useful in mobilising money and energy... but statistics are not a substitute for politics" End Quote Olivier De Schutter UN Rapporteur on right to food  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/haveyoursay/2010/09/how\\_can\\_global\\_poverty\\_and\\_hun.html](http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/haveyoursay/2010/09/how_can_global_poverty_and_hun.html)

Rich countries tend to focus on their own projects rather than pool their money into global funds that support programmes designed by developing nations - a model that has proven successful, he says.

Donor nations counter that developing states are not always effective partners, because of corruption and poor governance. And the UN is urging governments in the developing world to improve tax collection, as well as make sure that economic growth benefits the very poor.

Another reason for failure is the inferior position of women and girls in many poor nations, due to entrenched inequalities. Aid workers say rectifying this is crucial, because the status of women has a huge impact on MDGs related to children, health and education.

Given these systemic problems, some activists want the summit to frame the UN goals not as mere aspirations but as human rights anchored by legislation, as a way of holding governments to account.

And, alongside calls for greater commitment to meet aid pledges, some also want a greater emphasis on what they say are structural causes of global poverty: the burden of foreign debt in the developing world, and trade regimes that do not allow poor countries to develop their economies in ways that would best meet the needs of their people.

"The MDGs have been useful in mobilising money and energy," says Olivier De Schutter, the UN's Special Rapporteur on the right to food. "But they attack the symptoms of poverty - underweight children, maternal mortality, HIV prevalence - while remaining silent on the deeper causes of underdevelopment and hunger."

"Statistics are not a substitute for politics.

"The summit is expected to declare that achieving the Millennium Development Goals is do-able by 2015, with the right combination of money, policies and, above all, political will.

But there is scepticism, and critics will be looking out for mention of specific steps and practical action plans to flesh out the rhetoric

"Are the Millennium Development Goals really achievable?"

BBC world news 20 September 2010

With only five years left to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals, can Africa really halve the numbers of people living in extreme poverty by the 2015 deadline?

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon urged delegates to stick to the task to reach 2015 targets

At the summit in the year 2000, cutting child mortality rates, providing universal primary education and improving maternal health were all part of the eight goals placed on the agenda.

Now ten years later world leaders are meeting in New York to review the situation.

At the opening of this latest summit, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said countries should not use the economic downturn as an excuse for reducing aid.

BBC Focus on Africa's Peter Ndoro asked Deborah Doane, Director of the World Development Movement, an anti-poverty organisation if Africa was on course to meet these targets.

## NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS

"Ban Ki-moon ziet vooral succesverhalen; Wereldleiders in New York zinnen op mogelijkheden om ontwikkelingsdoelen te halen"

NRC Handelsblad **21 september 2010 dinsdag**

**BYLINE:** Juurd Eijsvoogel

**SECTION:** BUITENLAND; Blz. 5

**LENGTH:** 743 woorden

### SAMENVATTING

Op de wereldtop over de millenniumdoelen spreken regeringsleiders elkaar moed in. Over de doelen is iedereen het eens. Maar niet over hoe die bereikt moeten worden.

### VOLLEDIGE TEKST:

Alsof het de wereld niet al genoeg moeite kost om de in 2000 afgesproken doelstellingen voor bestrijding van honger, armoede en onderontwikkeling te halen, deed de premier van Bhutan er gisteren nog een schepje bovenop. De meer dan honderd staatshoofden en regeringsleiders die deze week in New York drie dagen spreken over de acht officiële zogeheten Millennium Doelstellingen, drukte hij op het hart om zich daarnaast meer te bekommeren om het geluk van de mens.

Het streven naar geluk zou, naast zaken als halvering van het aantal mensen dat in extreme armoede leeft, als negende doelstelling toegevoegd moeten worden aan het lijstje van acht ontwikkelingsdoelen die de lidstaten van de Verenigde Naties in 2015 bereikt willen hebben.

Geluk, aldus premier Jigme Thinley, is immers waar uiteindelijk iedere burger naar verlangt. Dus het doel van ontwikkeling moet zijn om daarvoor de voorwaarden te scheppen.

Het was een schaarse lichte noot in een lange reeks ernstige toespraken. De ene na de andere wereldleider sprak opnieuw zijn toewijding uit aan de Millenniumdoelen. „Ondanks alle obstakels, ondanks alle sceptis en ondanks de snel naderende deadline van 2015, kunnen de doelen gehaald worden", bezwoer VN-chef Ban Ki-moon bij de opening van de top. Dat de wereld zich in 2000 acht concrete ontwikkelingsdoelen stelde, „heeft geleid tot meer succesverhalen dan ooit tevoren", aldus Ban.

Behalve halvering van extreme armoede gaat het om: zorgen dat kinderen overal de basisschool kunnen afmaken; ongelijkheid tussen jongens en meisjes in het onderwijs ongedaan maken; kindersterfte voor 2015 met tweederde terug te brengen ten opzichte van 1990; de sterfte van vrouwen in het kraambed met driekwart te reduceren; de verspreiding van hiv/aids tot staan brengen; beginselen van duurzaamheid integreren in het beleid van alle landen; en een systeem van eerlijke handel bevorderen.

Maar hoewel de doelstellingen gisteren nog eens breed onderschreven werden, bleek tegelijk hoezeer de meningen uiteenlopen over de manier waarop ze bereikt moeten worden - als dat inderdaad nog mogelijk is in de komende vijf jaar.

Dat de economische crisis het allemaal een stuk moeilijker maakt, is voor iedereen duidelijk. De Franse president Sarkozy pleitte daarom voor 'innovatieve financiering', zoals belasting op financiële transacties en mogelijk ook op vliegtickets, toerisme, internet, om het streven naar de Millenniumdoelen te kunnen blijven betalen. Ook de Spaanse premier Zapatero ziet daarin een uitkomst. Maar een groot deel van de landen van de G20, waaronder de Verenigde Staten, heeft zich al tegen dit soort nieuwe belastingen uitgesproken.

De ontwikkelingseconomist Jeffrey Sachs, een van de geestelijke vaders van de Millenniumdoelen en adviseur van Ban Ki-moon, betoogt met kracht dat de rijke landen gewoon meer geld op tafel moeten leggen, zoals veel ontwikkelingslanden zeggen. Het Westen besteedt honderden miljarden aan oorlogen en het redden van banken, zegt hij, maar als het economisch tegenstaat, wordt er gesneden in de begrotingen voor ontwikkelingssamenwerking.

President Obama zal woensdag pas spreken, maar zijn regering koppelt de doelstellingen aan de strijd tegen corruptie en verbetering van controle op de besteding van hulpgelden. Dat doen ook landen als Duitsland en Nederland (dat vertegenwoordigd wordt door premier Balkenende, die vandaag naar New York zou vliegen voor de top en de aansluitende opening van de **Algemene Vergadering** van de Verenigde Naties).

Bij de besteding van het geld is de vraag naar welke groepen het eerst geholpen worden belangrijk. Lang is bijvoorbeeld gedacht dat het het meest effectief is, en de meeste levensgered kunnen worden, als hulp gericht wordt op de mensen die het makkelijkst bereikt kunnen worden. Dat zijn veelal mensen in steden. Maar een recent rapport van Unicef, het kinderfonds van de Verenigde Naties, laat zien dat het vaak juist effectiever is om hulpgeld te besteden aan kinderen in de meest afgelegen gebieden van arme landen.

De Noorse premier Stoltenberg nam het duidelijkst afstand van het optimisme van Ban Ki-moon. „Als we zo doorgaan, halen we niet één van de doelstellingen. We hebben extra geld nodig én betere strategieën.“

Als we zo doorgaan, halen we niet één van de doelstellingen

“Millenniumdoelen zijn nog haalbaar”

De Volkskrant ANP op [20 september '10](#), 22:37, bijgewerkt [20 september '10](#), 22:49

Ban Ki-moon (ANP)

De acht Millenniumdoelen die de wereld zich heeft gesteld, kunnen nog worden gehaald.

Dan moet wel veel werk worden verzet, zei VN-chef Ban Ki-moon maandag in New York bij de opening van een conferentie over de doelen. ‘De klok tikt, er is nog veel te doen.’

Huidig tempo

In het huidige tempo zullen de doelen, die onder meer moeten zorgen voor minder armoede en honger, in 2015 waarschijnlijk niet worden gehaald.

Volgens experts ligt de voortgang bij geen van de doelen op schema. Een van de redenen zou de economische crisis zijn, waardoor overheden minder uitgaven aan ontwikkelingshulp.

## “VN-top: Creatieve belastingen in strijd tegen armoede”

Algemeen Dagblad 22/09/10 15u34

**NEW YORK - De Franse president Sarkozy wil de armoede in de wereld bestrijden door een aantal creatieve belastingen in te voeren. Zo zouden extra heffingen op vliegtickets, internetgebruik en financiële transacties aangewend moeten worden om de millenniumdoelstellingen, zoals opgesteld door de VN, binnen vijf jaar te halen.**

*Sarkozy spreekt op de VN-top in New York. FOTO BRUNOPRESS*

Al eerder werd gesproken over het invoeren van extra belasting op financiële deals. Die zouden onder meer dienen ter vergoeding van de overheidsmaatregelen die, mede in het belang van de banken, zijn getroffen tijdens de wereldwijde economische crisis.

Sarkozy riep dit tijdens de VN-top over de strijd tegen armoede. Het voorstel om deze inkomsten mede aan het terugdringen van armoede te besteden, kon in New York rekenen op bijval van de Spaanse premier Zapatero en zijn Belgische collega Leterme.

### **Niet iedereen enthousiast**

Maar niet iedereen is even enthousiast over de innovatieve belastingen die Sarkozy voorstaat. Met name de Verenigde Staten staan niet te springen om de extra tax op vliegreizen, toerisme en bijvoorbeeld mobiele telefonie in te voeren. Zonder de inbreng van grote spelers, als de VS, is de kans van slagen van het plan uiterst klein.

De Franse minister van Buitenlandse Zaken, Bernard Kouchner, hamerde daarom op de urgentie om dit soort plannen te ontwikkelen. Volgens Kouchner zijn de huidige financiële middelen niet toereikend om de doelstellingen te halen. Een heffing van 5 cent per duizend dollar, in het geval van financiële transacties, zou volgens hem echter al zo'n 40 miljard dollar per jaar extra opleveren.

### **'Pioniers'**

Overigens gaat de Franse minister er niet vanuit dat alle in de VN vertegenwoordigde landen de creatieve heffingen direct zullen invoeren. "Sommigen moeten pioniers zijn" zegt hij. "Het zal niet morgen lukken, maar misschien overmorgen."

De voorstanders van het plan hebben de vergadering nu een verklaring voorgelegd die andere landen vraagt zich aan te sluiten bij de plannen. "we hebben de economie geglobaliseerd, het is nu tijd om ook de solidariteit te globaliseren," aldus VN-adviseur Philippe Douste-Blazy. (DVDH)

### "Miljardenimpuls VN voor plan tegen armoede"

Algemeen Dagblad 22/09/10 20u27

NEW YORK - VN-topman Ban Ki-moon heeft woensdag een 27,5 miljard euro kostende strategie gelanceerd om de levens van 16 miljoen vrouwen en kinderen te redden in de komende vijf jaar. De strategie is deel van de wereldwijde bestrijding van armoede, honger en ziektes.

De presentatie moet een impuls geven aan de Millenniumdoelen, vooral voor betere gezondheid van vrouwen en kinderen. De wereldleiders spraken tien jaar geleden af om de honger, armoede, moedersterfte en kindersterfte en andere problemen fors te beperken voor 2015.

"Het is de eerste keer dat we een unanieme overeenstemming zien over de benadering van de gezondheid van vrouwen en kinderen", zei Robert Orr, een topmedewerker van Ban Ki-moon. Het plan krijgt de goedkeuring van de 192 VN-landen.

De 27,5 miljard euro (40 miljard dollar) is toegezegd door regeringen, stichtingen en bedrijven. (ANP)

## **OPEN LETTERS**

### Open letter of Maxime Verhagen to Co-facilitators

His Excellency Mr Paul Badji  
Co-Facilitator  
Permanent Representative  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Senegal  
to the United Nations

His Excellency Mr Carsten Stauer  
Co-Facilitator  
Permanent Representative  
Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Denmark  
to the United Nations

### **NEW YORK**

The Hague, June 2010

The High Level Meeting on Millennium Development Goals to be held in New York on 20-22 September 2010 is an important opportunity for focusing on two of the world's biggest challenges: alleviating poverty and making the world more sustainable.

The Millennium Development Goals are our common concern and cannot be achieved by governments alone. We believe they can only be achieved if all parties – governments, the business community, NGOs, labour unions, universities and research institutions – work together in partnerships to realise common objectives, sharing the risks and benefits and jointly contributing resources and capabilities.

Long-term commitment of the private sector to the developed and developing world is critical to achieving the MDGs, both as a source of stimulus for economic growth, sustainable development and employment, and as an enabler of progress in areas such as public health and education. The business community's involvement should not be viewed as a source of additional finance, but rather as a source of knowledge and expertise in areas such as science and innovation, logistics and project management, public health promotion and positive behaviour change.

Cooperation between governments and business does not only benefit those who need our help. It is also invaluable to the partners themselves as it enables each to learn from the other, reinforcing skills and knowledge and, in the process, maximising results.

The most successful public-private partnerships generate 'win-win-win' solutions: outcomes that are good for society, public sector partners and private sector partners. While challenges remain when it comes to building such alliances, there are many positive examples of the

private sector generating creative, tailor-made development solutions in partnership with governments and NGOs. For example, in the Netherlands private companies, NGOs and the government are working to improve the income and working conditions of smallholder farmers and their employees at the beginning of the supply chain by making joint investments in sustainable production and commodities sourcing. There are also joint initiatives in place for investing in food security, in which companies are taking a leading role.

We believe there is much to be gained by sharing these examples and are keen to share experience and expertise in the run-up to, or at, the High Level Meeting.

We are aware that negotiations on the outcome document of the High Level Meeting have begun, and would therefore like to propose that the following passage be incorporated into the draft text.

*Long-term commitment of the private sector to the developed and developing world is critical to achieving the MDGs, both as a source of and stimulus for economic growth, sustainable development and employment, and as an enabler of progress in areas such as public health and education. If we are to close the gap in achieving the MDGs, we have to act decisively together with the business and NGO community. We have to build strategic partnerships with companies in sectors where the societal needs and benefits are most closely aligned to the companies' core business and the NGOs' core competences. Forming innovative public-private partnerships with the business community, combining and reinforcing each other's knowledge and capabilities, enhances aid effectiveness. Partnerships have the added advantage of serving as a catalyst, with each partner's contribution multiplying the effect of government interventions. The potential for generating funding and scaling up partnership activity to other sectors and countries are key factors that should be considered when establishing public-private partnerships. While challenges remain when it comes to building such alliances, there are many positive examples from all over the world of the private sector generating creative, tailor-made development solutions, often in partnership with governments and NGOs. We need to learn from each other and share our experiences in order to repeat these successes.*

Maxime Verhagen

Minister of Foreign Affairs of  
the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Peter Bakker  
Chief Executive Officer TNT

Paul Polman  
Chief Executive Officer Unilever

Gerard Kleisterlee  
Chief Executive Officer Philips

Jean-François van Boxmeer  
Chief Executive Officer Heineken



Nanno Kleiterp  
Chief Executive Officer FMO

Frank van Oers  
Executive vice president of Sara Lee Corporation

André van Heemstra  
Chairman Dutch Network UN Global Compact

Feike Sijbesma  
Chief Executive Officer Royal DSM

Piet Moerland  
Chairman of Rabobank Executive Board

Dick Boer  
Chief Operating Officer Ahold Europe

Hans Wijers  
Chief Executive Officer AkzoNobel

Joost Oorthuizen  
Director Dutch Sustainable  
Trade Initiative

Timo Hoogeboom  
Director Mars Netherlands

Rik van Terwisga  
Chairman of the Executive Board

Anja Groenewoud  
Managing Director Accenture Netherlands

Peter Blom  
Chief Executive Officer Triodos Bank

### Public opinion : Bedrijven onmisbaar in strijd tegen armoede

Vandaag worden in New York de ‘World Business and Development Awards’ uitgereikt. Wie de eer ook ten deel valt, het enkele bestaan van deze prijzen benadrukt de cruciale rol van het bedrijfsleven in de bestrijding van armoede. Dat signaal is nog altijd hard nodig. Te vaak wordt armoedebestrijding gezien als de verantwoordelijkheid van internationale organisaties, ngo’s en overheden alleen. Maar om het leven van de allerarmsten in ontwikkelingslanden te verbeteren, is de innovatieve inbreng van bedrijven simpelweg onmisbaar.

‘De rijken hebben markten, de armen bureaucraten,’ heeft de beroemde econoom William Easterly geschreven. Dat is tragisch, zeker als je bedenkt dat tachtig procent van de wereldwijde armoedevermindering het gevolg is van economische groei. Uit onderzoek blijkt ook dat als het inkomen per hoofd van de bevolking groeit, ook de armste 20 procent van de bevolking daarvan profiteert. Maar dan moeten de armen wel mee kunnen doen. Van zo’n duurzame economische groei zijn bedrijven de motor. Zij zorgen voor goederen, banen en belastinginkomsten.

Natuurlijk, investeren in ontwikkelingslanden is moeilijk. Bij het vinden van een balans tussen winst en ontwikkeling, het beheersen van risico’s en meten van resultaat zijn ngo’s, overheden en internationale organisaties van grote waarde. Daarom kiest Nederland voor samenwerking. Het ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken, dat partijen bij elkaar brengt, telt al 75 partnerschappen. In het Initiatief Duurzame Handel bijvoorbeeld, proberen ruim 70 internationaal opererende bedrijven en 24 maatschappelijke organisaties met partners in ontwikkelingslanden producten als hout en cacao menselijker, milieuvriendelijker, winstgevender te produceren en te verkopen. Andere voorbeelden zijn partnerschappen op het terrein van zorgverzekeringen en schoon drinkwater in Afrika.

Tussen 2003 en 2012 trekken overheid, ngo’s, vakbonden en bedrijven samen ruim twee miljard euro uit voor zulke partnerschappen. De aandacht van het bedrijfsleven voor armoedebestrijding komt tegemoet aan de wens van het publiek. Maar liefst 85 procent van de Nederlanders vindt het belangrijk tot zeer belangrijk dat bedrijven goed zijn voor mens, milieu en maatschappij, blijkt uit recent onderzoek. Met andere woorden: de traditionele roverdeling tussen overheid en bedrijfsleven is achterhaald.

In New York worden prijzen uitgereikt, maar er wordt vooral op hoog niveau gepraat over de millenniumdoelen. Het behalen van die doelen in het jaar 2015 – van de uitbanning van honger tot terugdringing van moedersterfte – is verre van vanzelfsprekend. Er wordt wel vooruitgang geboekt, maar dikwijls onvoldoende. In Sub-Sahara Afrika, een van de armste regio’s ter wereld, dreigt zelfs geen enkel millenniumdoel te worden gehaald. Die confronterende feiten maken het belangrijker dan ooit alle krachten tegen de armoede te bundelen. Zeker als je bedenkt dat er nog altijd een miljard mensen leven van minder dan 1,25 dollar per dag.

Minister-president Balkenende zal deze boodschap namens Nederland in New York uitdragen. Daarnaast heeft de Nederlandse regering met landen als Duitsland, de Verenigde Staten en het Verenigd Koninkrijk een verklaring opgesteld, waarin de rol van het bedrijfsleven in het behalen van de millenniumdoelen wordt benadrukt. En ceo’s van 16 Nederlandse bedrijven en multinationals hebben met de minister van Buitenlandse Zaken in een brief aan de Verenigde Naties, (verantwoordelijk voor de millenniumdoelen) aandacht gevraagd voor het belang van

partnerschappen. Zij noemen samenwerking een win-win-winsituatie: goed voor bedrijven, goed voor de publieke sector, goed voor de samenleving – hier en daar. Dat Nederlandse geluid moet in New York worden gehoord.

*Maxime Verhagen (minister van Buitenlandse Zaken), Feike Sijbesma (CEO DSM), Nanno Kleiterop (CEO FMO), Jean-François van Boxmeer (CEO Heineken), Sjoerd van Keulen (voorzitter Holland Financial Centre), Gerard Kleisterlee (CEO Philips), Piet Moerland (CEO Rabobank), Peter Bakker (CEO TNT), Peter Blom (CEO Triodos Bank), Paul Polman (CEO Unilever), Rik van Terwesga (CEO Vitens)*

## Open letter to the Dutch Government

**Summary of the Open letter to the Dutch Government delegation attending the UN Millennium Development Goal Summit (September 20-22, 2010) from the NPM (Nationaal Platform Millenniumdoelen). (Please see the Annex for the full letter).**

We ask you to focus your negotiation efforts on four specific issues, which fit well into Dutch positioning on issues of foreign affairs and development cooperation.

1. The MDG's can be achieved through a holistic approach, which recognizes the urgent need for quality public services for all, as an investment both in people and in future healthy economies.

The MDG's concerned with nutrition, safe water, sanitation, maternal and child health are particularly far off track in many countries. This is connected to cross-cutting issues such as gender, social exclusion and climate change. Universal access to quality healthcare, education throughout life, water and sanitation is the global commitment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Investing in education and healthcare leads to gender justice, future economic productivity, and is a corner stone of international security and the prevention of conflict.

2. The need to create full and decent employment for all should be combined with mitigation and adaptation measures to address climate change.

Win-win options for economic as well as environmental problems can be created by inclusive financing for green jobs, local solutions for water, sanitation and energy problems by investing in the capacity of young women and men. This fits with the ILO job pact and earlier ILO agreements which include social protection, employment- and trade union rights, decent wages and unemployment benefits so that families can provide in their own basic needs.

3. Achieving the MDG's (including gender justice and climate change) requires policy coherence: effective and sufficient aid, debt cancellation and fair trade agreements. In other words concrete commitments for MDG 7 and 8.

Aid-, climate and other international commitments should be met by developed countries, regardless of the financial crisis which now strongly affects vulnerable countries and populations (particularly women, children and socially excluded) - who played no role in causing it. The Dutch delegation should support the rights of individual countries to only enter trade deals which support the needs and interest of their own people.

4. Regular gender audits of budgets as well as results on the ground are effective monitoring measurements.

Civil society must be facilitated not only at local and national but also at global level to operate in a democratic environment, with a legislative framework, financial resources and access to technology to allow it to use (interactive) media and the freedom to express opinions and support the rights of the marginalised without fear of harassment, organisational closure or personal imprisonment or violence. The Dutch delegation should support the autonomous and critical role of a diverse civil society in the outcome document as well as in practice.

**Annex : The Full Letter**

**Utrecht, 8 september 2010**

**Dear members of the Dutch Government Delegation,**

This letter is sent to you by the **Nederlands Platform Millenniumdoelen** representing 55 Dutch Civil Society- and Development organisations. We organise the Millennium Campaign in the Netherlands run by **EEN**, and we are part of **GCAP** (the **Global Call to Action against Poverty**) who mobilised 173 million people to Stand Up and Take Action against Poverty in the week-end around the UN World Poverty Day last October.

We are aware (with you) that the UN Summit on the Millennium goals starting on the 20th of september 2010 is extremely important. The review of progress towards achieving the millennium goals in 2015 is patchy indeed. The world has changed since the Millennium Declaration was formulated in 2000. This is the moment to re-establish broad global partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society, and to achieve the millennium goals and more. This will mean that the now more than a billion people in the world suffering from hunger can be helped urgently. To food, education and healthcare – so that they can participate in economic, social and political sense to shape their own future.

We would like to ask you to focus your negotiations efforts during the last phase of the outcome document of the MDG summit (the MDG Breakthrough Plan) on four specific issues, which fit well into Dutch positioning on issues of foreign affairs and development cooperation.

**1. The MDG's can be achieved through a holistic approach, which recognizes the urgent need for quality public services for all, as an investment in people and in future healthy economies.**

We would like you to support all language regarding the need to achieve the MDG's in all countries in the world via a holistic approach. It is clear that a number of MDG's concerned with nutrition, safe water, sanitation, maternal and child health are particularly far off track in many countries – and that this is increasingly connected to cross-cutting issues such as gender, social exclusion and climate change. Universal access to healthcare, education throughout life, water and sanitation should become a core part of the MDG Breakthrough plans. Firstly because this is a rights-based approach to the MDG's, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. But also because investing in education and healthcare is investing in gender justice as well as future economic productivity, as the more successful developing countries/economies have proven. And it is a corner stone of future international security and the prevention of conflict, fitting article 90 of the Dutch constitution which undertakes to 'promote the development of the international legal order'.

**2. The need to create full and decent employment for all should be combined with mitigation and adaptation measures to address climate change.**

We think there is a huge opportunity to invest in environmentally sustainable local economies via small scale agriculture and trade, thus increasing local productivity, micro-banking and – insurance and local (to national and regional) trade. Such developments can fully involve local communities and civil society – thus becoming increasingly 'of the people' and not just 'for the people'. Such locally based economic development can increase food security and become a solid base of economic development. More so than some export-driven economic activities that have large environmental cost, jobless growth and informalisation of work including child labour. Inclusive financing for green jobs, local solutions for water, sanitation and energy

problems by investing in the capacity of young women and men can create new win-win options for economic as well as environmental problems. This fits with the ILO job pact and earlier ILO agreements which include social protection, employment- and trade union rights, decent wages and unemployment benefits so that families can provide for their basic need. The Netherlands has a certain history in supporting this kind of integrated development and should continue to do so: transformational research regarding food production, water and sanitation, and support for micro-financing (also to big civil society partners on the ground such as in Bangladesh).

**3. Achieving the MDG's (including gender justice and climate change) requires policy coherence: effective and sufficient aid, debt cancellation and fair trade agreements. . In other words concrete commitments for MDG 7 and 8.**

At this moment of economic crisis the budgets for development cooperation are under pressure in many countries. Therefore we need strong political will and ambition to look for solutions to achieve the MDG's. Aid-, climate and other international commitments should be met by developed countries (MDG 7 and 8), regardless of the financial crisis which is actually strongly affecting vulnerable countries and populations (particularly women, children and socially excluded) - who played no role in causing it,

Traditionally the Netherlands have been in the forefront of attempts to combat poverty. The Netherlands has scored well on international coherence scales by being one of the few countries to honour the 0.7% ODA/G

NI commitment as well as attempts to achieve fuller policy coherence at home, within the EU, and a more balanced global governance of the World Bank.

However what works against achieving the MDG's are the unfinished Doha Rounds of multilateral trade negotiations, the negative impact of the Free Trade Agreements on food security, employment, accessibility of health services including generic drugs, as well as the IMF continued enforcement of conditionalities such as trade liberalization and ultra-low inflation targets.

The Dutch delegation should support all language in the MDG Breakthrough Plan that recognizes the rights of individual countries to only enter trade deals which support the needs and interest of their own people. This means interpreting national ownership as being something which should include broad civil society participation, and not be negotiated in a non-transparent manner between national elites and the EU Commission, Multilateral agencies and/or multinational companies. The Dutch delegation should support the development of an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.

**4. Full civil society involvement is needed to achieve progress of the MDG's. Regular gender audits of budgets as well as results on the ground are effective monitoring measurements.**

There are good examples of transparent planning, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms at local and national level in some countries – but not yet in many others. Civil voices have insufficiently access at multilateral-, multinational- and global decision making levels. Increased inequality, discrimination, exclusion and violence (particularly against women) is not sufficiently measured nor seen as a key element in the negative cycle of poverty. Positively involving women in transformative solutions receives lipservice everywhere, but is insufficiently put into practice. Civil society must be facilitated not only at local and national but also at global level to operate in a democratic environment, with a legislative framework, financial resources and access to technology to allow it to use (interactive) media and the freedom to express opinions

and support the rights of the marginalised without fear of harassment, organisational closure or personal imprisonment or violence. The Dutch government has a long history in supporting human rights work, feminist- and gender networks and other global networks (e.g. the International Press Service). Understanding the democratic need for checks and balances at national and global level means the Dutch delegation can support the autonomous and critical role of a diverse civil society in the outcome document as well as in practice.

**Finally** we have a practical request to you, Minister Verhagen and your delegation. We would like the Dutch delegation to host (preferably with some other national delegations from the global South) a press conference within the UN on the 22nd of September, and to invite representatives from the broad civil society meetings which is organised by GCAP that day to be part of that press conference, to discuss and receive press interest in civil society reactions to the outcome of the MDG summit.

That same afternoon at 5 0' clock you are cordially invited to the reception that will be organised at the end of the GCAP broad civil society meeting at the Salvation Army space, close to the UN. Here GCAP will look back at some of the results that the national coalitions and constituency groups have achieved in the last years.

We hope for a positive response to our four points, and practical request and invitation.

Yours sincerely,

Sylvia Borren,  
Chair of the Nederlands Platform Millenniumdoelen  
Co-chair of GCAP

Organisations that are part of the Nederlands platform Millenniumdoelen:

- 1%CLUB
- Afrika Europa Netwerk
- Amnesty International
- Both Ends
- Care Nederland
- CNV internationaal
- Connect International
- Cordaid
- COS Nederland
- CosmoQueen
- Day for Change
- De katrol
- Dokters van de Wereld
- Edukans
- Evert Vermeer Stichting
- Fairfood
- FNV Mondiaal
- Global Village Media
- Hivos
- Hospitaalbroeders

- ICCO
- Islamic Relief Nederland
- Jonge Socialisten
- Jubilee Nederland
- KNR
- Landelijke Vereniging voor Wereldwinkels
- Leger des Heils
- LokaalMondiaal
- Mensen met een Missie
- Micha Campagne
- MYBODY
- Nationale Jeugdraad
- NiZA
- NSA
- Noticias - Platform Latijns-Amerika in Nederland / La Ruta
- Oikos
- OxfamNovib
- Plan Nederland
- Rutgers Nisso Groep Youth Incentives
- Save the Children
- Seva Network Foundation
- Share-Net
- SNV
- SOS-Kinderdorpen
- Stichting Practica
- Stichting Save
- STOP AIDS NOW!
- The Hunger Project
- Trees for Travel
- Unicef
- Up to you too
- VNG
- VSO
- WECF
- Wemos

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**"WBCSD joins major effort to accelerate progress on Millennium Development Goals"**

**New York City, September 21, 2010** – The World Business Council for Sustainable Development ([WBCSD](#)) along with eight other prominent organizations today issued a [Joint Statement](#) ( 815 kb) calling on governments to accelerate progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by fostering inclusive business practices and models.

The Joint Statement was released during an [officially sanctioned half-day forum](#) at the United Nations MDG Summit in New York City. The forum featured leaders from companies, governments, international organizations, aid agencies and NGOs from around the world and highlighted the importance of expanding inclusive business models and practices as a key part of achieving the MDGs.

The MDGs are eight targets that aim to reduce poverty, hunger, maternal and child deaths, disease, inadequate shelter, gender inequality and environmental degradation in developing countries by 2015, agreed upon by 189 states in 2000.

The [Joint Statement](#) ( 815 kb) notes that progress towards achieving the MDGs has been uneven and that much more work remains to be done if the goals are to be met in the time frame specified.

"Inclusive Business models harness the core competencies of business to respond directly to the needs of poor consumers or to build productive beneficial linkages with poor producers," the Joint Statement says. "By focusing on commercial viability, these models have a demonstrated inherent capacity to be scaled to engage thousands, and increasingly millions, of poor people."

"The WBCSD has provided thought leadership and gathered practical experience in promoting business solutions to sustainability issues in the developing world for over a decade," said Marcel Engel, Managing Director for [WBCSD's Development Focus Area](#). "As part of our work, we coined the term "Inclusive Business" to describe profitable business models that reduce poverty and generate sustainable livelihoods."

The Joint Statement explains concrete examples of how business, if given the necessary investment framework, can be a catalyst for social and economic progress. "We believe that business succeeds best in societies that thrive. We further believe the leading companies of the future will be those that do business in a way that addresses the major development challenges. Sustainably addressing the needs of the developing world represents a huge opportunity for business, given the long-term demand for investment, infrastructure, products and services it will trigger," the Joint Statement says.

Today's forum was organized in a joint effort by WBCSD and the Business Call to Action, International Business Leaders Forum, Business Action for Africa, International Chamber of Commerce, United Nations Development Programme, The Global Compact, United Nations

Office for Partnerships, and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government's Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative.

The discussions underlined that business cannot develop these sustainable, market-based solutions to poverty challenges alone. The Joint Statement recommends collaborative action in the following areas:

- Promoting a fair and competitive global market that is non-discriminatory;
- Establishing regulatory frameworks that uphold property rights, accelerate entry to the formal economy and root out corruption;
- Providing capacity-building and general education;
- Facilitating access to finance and investment risk mitigation instruments, in particular for SMEs;
- Securing the necessary investments into core infrastructure, such as roads, energy systems, telecommunications and ports

The Joint Statement will be presented in tomorrow's [UN Private Sector Forum](#), which will be chaired by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and will convene approximately 300 Heads of State and Government, Chief Executive Officers, Civil Society Leaders and Heads of UN Agencies.

**"Strong endorsement for business role in Development at Private Sector Forum on the Millennium Development Goals"**

On 22 September 2010, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development ([WBCSD](#)) and several of its member companies participated in the [UN Private Sector Forum](#), which brought together top executives with government, UN and civil society leaders to address business role in achieving the Millennium Development Goals ([MDGs](#)), a set of internationally agreed targets to eradicate poverty and other social ills by 2015.

Organized as a roundtable discussion, the UN Private Sector Forum addressed a wide range of MDG-related themes deemed most relevant for private-sector engagement and action, such as poverty and hunger, maternal and child health and HIV/AIDS, access to education through innovative information and communication technology (ICT), innovations for financial inclusion, women's empowerment, achieving gender equality, and the green economy. The discussions aimed to help identify proven solutions that can help close critical MDG gaps around the world.

The WBCSD was represented by Marcel Engel, Managing Director for [WBCSD's Development Focus Area](#), who joined a discussion on the transition towards a green economy, jointly with WBCSD Vice-Chairman and Chairman of Reliance Industries, Mukesh Ambani, the Director General of the UN Environment Program (UNEP), Achim Steiner, former Irish President and UN Human Rights Commissioner, Mary Robinson, and others.

WBCSD members also provided substantive input to other panel discussions, including Development Focus Area co-chair and Group President of ERM, Robin Bidwell, TNT's CEO, Peter Bakker, UPS President, Dan Brutto, as well as high level executives from Coca Cola, DSM, DuPont, GDF SUEZ, Johnson & Johnson, Sony, and Unilever. Moreover, Lord Michael Hastings of KPMG acted as Master of Ceremonies of the Forum.

Calling an investment in the MDGs "an investment in growth, prosperity and the markets of the future", UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a strong call to global business to support the MDGs, acknowledging that "business is a primary driver of innovation, investment and job creation. There is no longer any doubt that business plays an integral role in delivering economic and social progress." He also urged governments "to create an environment in which business can flourish. That means supporting and rewarding responsible business practices. It means putting in place appropriate regulation. It means breaking down barriers to trade and reducing bureaucratic hurdles. And it means good governance."

The UN Secretary-General's statement was backed by the two co-hosts of this year's Forum, Senegal's President Wade and Denmark's Prime Minister Rasmussen. Wade explained that his country has transitioned from government-led growth to a more sustainable path of private sector development. Rasmussen pointed to a [joint statement of 11 key bilateral donor countries in support of the private sector's role in development](#). The need to link business and developing aid was also underlined by World Bank President Robert Zoellick, who added: "The problem of the poor is not the dominance of markets, but its absence."

In his keynote speech, Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Special Adviser to UN Secretary General on the MDGs, noted that the achievement of the MDGs by 2015 will depend on three factors inherent

to the private sector activity in developing countries: technology, scale and management. Likewise, Joseph Deiss, President of this year's session of the UN General Assembly, underlined the need to enhance public private partnerships to deliver concrete solutions to development challenges.

The event took place during the [United Nations Summit on the MDGs](#), during which the WBCSD co-organized an [officially sanctioned half-day forum](#) on the role of inclusive business practices and models in accelerating progress towards the MDGs.

This was the third consecutive year the UN organized such a Forum in connection with its General Assembly, underlying the growing recognition of the private sector's critical role as an engine of economic growth, employment, innovation and social progress.

## "New UNDP report: How does inclusive business contribute to Millennium Development Goals?"

Last week at the [UN Summit on the Millennium Development Goals](#), the United Nations Development Programme ([UNDP](#)) launched a report titled [The MDGs: Everyone's Business](#). The report, prepared by UNDP's Growing Inclusive Markets Initiative ([GIM](#)), highlights inclusive business models – from large multinational companies and domestic companies to cooperatives, small and medium enterprises and non-profit organizations (NPOs) using business principles – and the key actors that support them – from policymakers to researchers and advocates, funders and resource providers.

The report's main objectives are to:

- Highlight the role of different types of businesses and other actors in creating inclusive business models
- Acknowledge what has already been achieved and highlight best practices
- Show businesses who can support them in their engagement for the MDGs and how

An overview chapter is followed by eight chapters addressing the eight Millennium Development Goals ([MDGs](#)). Each has three sections:

**(1) The present situation** describes progress towards meeting the targets for the MDG, outlines the role of business in that progress, and identifies the challenges that remain.

**(2) The promise of inclusive business models** explains how various types of businesses can contribute further towards meeting this MDG, highlighting best practices for inclusive business models. Discussed are multi-national companies (MNCs), large domestic companies, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and not-for-profit organizations (NPOs) that use business approaches.

**(3) The supporting roles of institutions** shows how others can help create and implement business models that contribute towards meeting this MDG. Four types of support (policy, research and advocacy, finance, complementary capabilities) are discussed, along with best practice examples.

After these eight chapters, a ninth describes how UNDP supports businesses' contributions towards meeting the MDGs.

The report represents the beginning of extensive research undertaken by GIM into understanding the diverse set of actors that support and enable the development and scaling up of inclusive business models. By collaborating and building on each other's work, businesses, governments, donors, NPOs and others can develop more inclusive markets that result in expanded choice and opportunity for the poor.

## "MDGs: Business plays essential role in fight against poverty"

September 23, 2010

tags: [millennium development goals](#), [public private partnerships](#)

by Guest author

*Today's post is contributed by Dutch Foreign Affairs Minister [Maxime Verhagen](#) and the Dutch business leaders listed below, as part of our coverage of the Millennium Development Goals Summit taking place in New York. Click on the logo to go to the Summit website.*

Today in New York the [World Business and Development Awards](#) are being presented. Whoever is honoured, the very existence of these awards highlights the crucial role of the business community in poverty reduction. That message still needs to be heard. Only too often, poverty reduction is viewed as the exclusive responsibility of international organisations, NGOs and governments. However, in order to improve the lives of the poorest people in developing countries, innovative contributions by business are indispensable.

Celebrated economist [William Easterly](#) once wrote, "The rich have markets, the poor have bureaucrats." This is a tragedy, especially when we bear in mind that 80% of poverty reduction worldwide is the result of economic growth. Research shows that when per capita income goes up, the poorest 20% of the population benefit – if the poor can participate in growth. The engine of sustainable economic growth are businesses. Businesses are the source of goods, jobs and tax revenues.

Investing in developing countries is not easy. In striking a balance between profits and development, between risk management and result assessment, NGOs, governments and international organisations play a pivotal role. This is why the Netherlands chooses to work through partnerships. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which brings different players together, has already helped to form 75 partnerships. For example, the 70 companies and 24 civil society organisations taking part in the [Sustainable Trade Initiative](#) are working with partners in developing countries to make the production and sale of products such as timber and cacao more humane, eco-friendly and profitable. Other examples are the [Health Insurance Fund](#) and the [Investment Fund for Health in Africa](#), through which insurance companies and NGOs are cooperating to provide basic health coverage for African farmers.

Government, NGOs, trade unions and companies are spending over two billion euros on such partnerships between 2003 and 2012. The business community's poverty reduction efforts are a response to public sentiment. According to a recent survey, no less than 85% of the Dutch public thinks it is important or very important that companies work in a way that is good for people, the environment and society. In other words, the traditional division of roles between government and business is an anachronism.

Awards are being presented in New York today; even more important, high-level talks are being held on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Achieving the MDGs would mean among other things the elimination of hunger and the reduction of maternal mortality. But success by 2015 is far from assured. Progress is being made, but in many cases not enough progress. In sub-Saharan Africa, one of the world's poorest regions, there is even a risk that not a single MDG will be attained. These disturbing facts make it more urgent than ever that all forces be joined in the fight against poverty. Especially when we remember that there are still a billion people living on less than \$1.25 a day.

Dutch Prime Minister Jan Peter Balkenende will convey the message you can see in [this webcast](#) in New York. In addition, the Dutch government has drafted a joint declaration with countries like Germany, the UK and the US, stressing the business community's role in achieving the

MDGs. In addition, the CEOs of 16 Dutch multinationals have co-signed a letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the UN, which is responsible for the MDGs, highlighting the importance of partnerships. Co-operation, they write, is a win-win-win proposition: good for business, good for the public sector, and good for society in both developed and developing countries. This Dutch message needs to come through loud and clear in New York.

*Maxime Verhagen (Minister of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands), Feike Sijbesma (CEO DSM), Nanno Kleiterp (CEO FMO), Jean-François van Boxmeer (CEO Heineken), Sjoerd van Keulen (voorzitter Holland Financial Centre), Gerard Kleisterlee (CEO Philips), Piet Moerland (CEO Rabobank), Peter Bakker (CEO TNT), Peter Blom (CEO Triodos Bank), Paul Polman (CEO Unilever), Rik van Terwesga (CEO Vitens)*

**"Smarter partnerships for development"**

**Source: OECD,**

The Millennium Development Goal 8 on a global partnership for development is one of the less known MDGs. But its objective – to achieve a global partnership for development – is central to the achievement of all the MDGs by 2015. A list of [concrete actions](#) lays out how to accelerate progress towards this MDG by 2015.

### **Development partnerships**

Partnerships lie at the heart of MDG success stories. And – as the development landscape becomes more complex with new actors, new challenges and new funding streams – the importance of partnerships is growing. It is clear that the MDGs cannot be reached without full participation from all members of society (governments, parliamentarians, civil society, private sector) working towards a common agenda.

### **How to make smarter partnerships work in a complex world**

Smarter partnerships aim to maximise the impact of every partner's input. From public-private partnerships to South-South co-operation, these alliances have shown how to leverage the greatest possible development impact from all development resources, including aid. Efforts to bring in new actors, and promote innovation and mutual accountability have proven their effectiveness in delivering results such as getting children into school, caring for those affected by HIV/AIDS and malaria, and slowing the rate of deforestation. Based on frank and open discussion among development stakeholders, mutual and peer learning, and monitoring what does and doesn't work, these approaches can and should be replicated further – such as in tax and development, innovative finance, conflict and fragility and climate change – to accelerate progress towards the MDGs by 2015.

### **Actions that will make the difference**

Some emerging principles that underpin smarter partnerships for development:

**Inclusive partnerships:** Real, effective and equal partnerships so that all stakeholders can shape political decision-making for development

**Sharing knowledge:** A shared understanding of what works and what doesn't work, based on technical expertise, evidence, statistics and good practice

**Peer pressure:** Monitoring and gathering evidence to inform policy; upholding commitments and promoting best practice

**Mutual accountability:** All stakeholders work towards common objectives, based on joint monitoring and review, in line with the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action

**Linking global and national priorities:** Providing a platform for dialogue on development at country level with strong links to global and regional institutions and processes