

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

PREFACE TO THE MDG GAP TASK FORCE REPORT

26 June 2014

18/06/14

The deadline for achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is fast approaching, with much progress to report and many challenges still ahead. This report serves to review the experiences of recent years in pursuing a global partnership for development. Its analysis is particularly important as the international community focuses on formulating the post-2015 development agenda.

Since 2007, the MDG Gap Task Force has examined progress and shortfalls in implementing the targets of Goal 8, to “develop a global partnership for development”. Each report focuses on the gap between commitments made and cooperation delivered, with the ultimate goal of helping the international community bridge the difference.

A number of targets for Goal 8 are close to being achieved. Duty-free and quota-free access to developed-country markets has been extended for exports from least developed countries. Countries eligible for the heavily indebted poor countries initiative have successfully completed that process and achieved substantial and irrevocable debt relief. At the same time, progress on other targets has been slow, in particular in reaching the pledged volumes of official development assistance (ODA). There are important exceptions, and I applaud those States that have continued to increase ODA.

Private investment has spurred the greater availability and falling cost of telecommunications across the developing world, but too many people continue to lack access to affordable essential medicines. We still need an effective convergence of public policies and private initiatives to bridge this gap.

Once again, the MDG Gap Task Force Report has brought together key information produced by different parts of the international system, presenting a coherent overall picture of development cooperation. The report identifies what works as well as what remains to be done to realize an effective partnership.

Now more than ever, leaders and citizens across the globe must boldly step forward to join in essential collective actions to eradicate poverty, raise living standards and sustain the environment.

I call on all Governments and international institutions to continue strengthening the global partnership for development so that we can usher in a more sustainable future.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Note to the Chef de Cabinet

✓ Preface to the 2014 Report of the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force

On behalf of the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force, I am pleased to send you a draft of the Preface to the Task Force's 2014 Report, "The Global Partnership for Development", for clearance and signature of the Secretary-General.

As per previous practice, we would also like to seek your support to ask the Secretary-General to officially launch the Report at a Press Conference in September during the week coinciding with the opening of the 69th General Assembly. JA

✓ I would be most grateful to receive the necessary clearance of the Preface of the report as soon as possible in order to meet the deadlines for editing, translation, and printing of the Report.



Wu Hongbo
18 June 2013

cc: Deputy-Secretary-General

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