

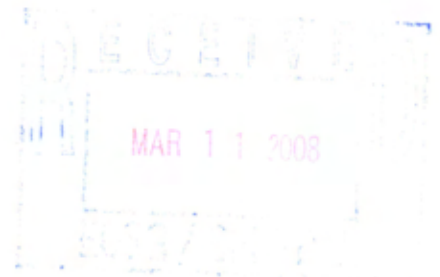
SECOND MEETING OF THE MDG AFRICA STEERING GROUP

10 March 2008

Conference Room 6, Level 1-B (first basement)

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Second Meeting of the MDG Africa Steering Group
10 March 2008 from 09:00 to 14:30 (EST/New York time)
Conference Rooms 6 and 1, Basement Level 1, UN Secretariat
Luncheon: Delegates' Dining Room 6, Floor 4, General Assembly Building

Revised Draft Agenda

AGENDA ITEM 1: OPENING REMARKS

- 09:30–10:00 **1.1) Welcome by the Chair and introductions – *Conference Room 6, Basement 1***
- Welcome and introductions
 - Report by Deputy Secretary-General on MDG Africa Working Group
 - Objectives of the meeting and adoption of agenda

AGENDA ITEM 2: DISCUSSION

- 10:00–11:45 **2.1) Discussion of draft decision document**

AGENDA ITEM 3: NEXT STEPS

- 11:45–12:10 **3.1) Finalizing the draft decision document**
- 3.2) Finalizing the draft letter on aid predictability**
- 3.3) Planning our forthcoming work**
- 3.4) Any other business and concluding remarks**

POST-MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

- 12:10–12:15 **Departure from meeting and movement to press conference**
- 12:15–13:00 **Press Conference – *Conference Room 1, Basement 1***
- 13:00–13:10 **Departure from meeting and movement to luncheon**
- 13:10–13:15 **Group photograph**
Foyer of Delegate's Dining Room 6, GA Building, 4th Floor
- 13:15–14:30 **Working lunch hosted by the UN Secretary-General**
Delegate's Dining Room 6, GA Building, 4th Floor

Decision Paper for the MDG Africa Steering Group

Draft for discussion, 5 March 2008

I. Objectives of the 10 March meeting of the MDG Africa Steering Group

At the 10 March meeting the MDG Africa Steering Group will review and endorse key initiatives to be implemented by the international community that derive from the recommendations prepared by the MDG Africa Working Group, which last met on 28 February 2008. The agenda for the meeting will be structured along thematic areas to consider each set of recommendations.

The initiatives proposed for adoption by the Steering Group are listed below together with a table that summarizes the financing needs and mechanisms. The initiatives set out an ambitious but feasible set of deliverables for the international community and are in line with existing commitments. If fully implemented, these initiatives will help ensure that African countries are adequately supported in their own efforts to achieve the MDGs.

Following the 10 March meeting, the recommendations that have been adopted will be consolidated into a brief document for public dissemination by the Steering Group. The recommendations will help inform the preparations of the upcoming EU Summit, the G8 Summit, the Accra High-Level Forum and other international conferences. In particular, they will support the preparation of the high-level event on the MDGs, which will be convened by the UN Secretary-General in New York on 25 September 2008. The event will provide a forum for Heads of State and leaders from business and civil society to announce the specific actions that they will undertake in support of achieving the MDGs.

II. Scaling up proven interventions to achieve the Millennium Development Goals

The year 2008 ushers in the second half of the Millennium Development Goal period, which must focus squarely on scaling up proven interventions to achieve the Goals. Substantial progress has been made globally in achieving the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals, but many countries remain off track to meeting them by 2015. This is particularly true in sub-Saharan Africa, which as a whole is lagging on each Goal despite a very encouraging recent rise in economic growth and strong macroeconomic fundamentals.

The aggregate picture does, however, hide important success stories. With the exception of maternal mortality, each MDG will individually be met in several African countries thanks to carefully designed programmes and sound policies that are backed up by strong government leadership and effective support from the international community. Success stories, such as Malawi's marked reduction of child mortality rates and Senegal's remarkable progress towards the water and sanitation targets, show what can be achieved if existing commitments on the policies and resources needed to achieve the MDGs are implemented.

The challenge of meeting the MDGs is compounded by the grave long-term risk that climate change poses for African countries. African countries unquestionably require additional resources for adaptation. Likewise, the dangers of a decelerating world economy add to the challenges that African countries will face in coming years. The MDGs and the international development agenda as a whole, including conclusion of the Doha Development Round, need to be kept at the top of the global agenda during this period of economic volatility to reduce the likelihood of slower increases or even reductions in the availability of financing for development.

The second half of the MDG period, from 2008 till 2015, will require a significant increase in targeted efforts to scale up proven interventions for success in agriculture and food security, education, health, infrastructure and trade facilitation, and national statistical systems.

Key international commitments and opportunities for scaling up include:

- Launching the African Green Revolution;
- Comprehensive school feeding using locally produced food and coverage of micronutrients;
- Achieving Education for All by 2015, including gender parity at all levels;
- Controlling infectious diseases, including
 - Comprehensive access to HIV/AIDS treatment by 2010;
 - Halving malaria burden by 2010 (from 2000 levels) and bringing malaria mortality close to zero by 2012;
 - Implementing the Global Stop TB Plan of Action;
 - Controlling Neglected Tropical Diseases by 2015;
- Ensuring access to emergency obstetric care for all women by 2015;
- Providing family planning services for all by 2015;
- Meeting the water supply and sanitation targets;
- Making critical infrastructure investments (transport, power, broadband) to ensure high productivity, lessen the time burden on women and young girls, and enable low-cost service delivery;
- Ensuring Africa's integration into the global economy to reap the full benefits of trade; and
- Implementing the Marrakesh Action Plan for Statistics.

Financing the targeted investments and current expenditures will require fulfilment of the aid commitments made at Monterrey (0.7 percent of GNP) and at Gleneagles (US\$50 billion for Africa in 2004 US\$, amounting to roughly [US\$65]¹ billion in 2007 US\$, by the year 2010). The remaining external financing needs will be met by non-DAC donors and public-private partnerships. Overall, financing for development in Africa should be at least US\$80 billion per year. To be effective, the increased resources need to be linked to quantitative targets, performance-based programming, and clear accountability through explicit institutional responsibilities and leadership.

III. Key initiatives and recommendations for endorsement by the MDG Africa Steering Group

The following initiatives derive from the work of the thematic groups of the MDG Africa Working Group.

1. Agriculture, food security, and nutrition

The MDG Africa Working Group underscores the central importance of agriculture to achieving the MDGs and accelerating growth across Africa. Increasing productivity of smallholder farmers who account for 80 percent of farmers across Africa using proven and cost-effective technologies will make a tremendous contribution to reducing hunger and alleviating poverty. Yields could increase by a factor of 2-3 or more if smallholder farmers gain access to basic agricultural inputs, such as fertilizer and improved seeds. Annual external financing needs for agriculture are estimated to reach approximately US\$8 billion by 2010. A key challenge remains that the sector lacks an effective mechanism that channels technical support and financing to national agriculture strategies.

¹ Number to be revised based on revised DAC exchange rates that are scheduled to be released in March.

Moreover, support for nutrition and school feeding programs using locally produced food needs to be significantly stepped up requiring an estimated US\$2 billion in external financing per year. In many parts of Africa rural and urban populations suffer from macro and micronutrient deficiencies that can be addressed through targeted national programs. In conjunction with increases in agricultural productivity among smallholder farmers these proven programs can address food insecurity, which today affects many parts of the continent.

Proposed key initiatives and recommendations to be endorsed by the Steering Group:

- 1.1. The MDG Africa Steering Group will advocate for the launch of the African Green Revolution built on providing access to improved seeds, fertilizer, and agricultural extension; strengthening water management, and improving access to markets. The Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Programme (CAADP) provides a critical regional mechanism for supporting the design and implementation of national agriculture and food security strategies.
- 1.2. Working with African Governments, the international community will establish a global multilateral fund for African agriculture to finance the African Green Revolution. The fund will aim to mobilize a large part of the US\$8 billion in needed external financing from all donors in support of country-led agriculture strategies – perhaps some US\$5 billion per year. To avoid setting up a new institution and layer of bureaucracy, the fund can be housed at an existing institution, such as IFAD. It will also follow the principles of the Paris Declaration to ensure support for nationally owned programs and effective use of resources.
- 1.3. Development partners will support African Governments in rolling out comprehensive national-scale nutrition programmes to tackle micronutrient deficiencies (i.e. iodine, Vitamin A, zinc, iron, etc.) accompanied by school feeding programs covering all children in primary schools using locally produced food. An estimated US\$2 billion will be required in external financing to support these critical programs.

2. Education

Thanks to tremendous efforts by African Governments and global initiatives such as the Education for All Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI), several African countries are on track to achieve universal primary education by 2015. The sector is well organized to support the scaling-up of investments in education and associated current expenditure. In spite of its excellent track record and landmark contributions, such as the United Kingdom commitment to provide US\$15bn over 10 years, the EFA-FTI remains heavily under-funded. It urgently requires more funding to finance education strategies that have already been approved, support a larger number of African countries – particularly post-conflict countries – to come forward with bankable education plans, and to expand coverage to secondary education and adult literacy programs, which are critical for economic growth and to meet the EFA Goals as well as other MDGs.

Proposed key initiatives and recommendations to be endorsed by the Steering Group:

- 2.1. The international community will fully fund the EFA-FTI, with specific targets derived from the MDGs/EFA goals.² This will likely require some US\$8.3 billion per year.³
- 2.2. The FTI will review existing EFA-FTI proposals to ascertain if they are consistent with achieving the MDG and EFA goals and, as necessary, will work with countries to revise the proposals to align them with achieving the Goals.

² The EFA Goals to be achieved by 2015 are: universal primary school completion; comprehensive early childhood care; 50% improvement in adult literacy from 2000; eliminating gender disparity in education; improving quality of education; and advancing life-long learning.

³ This figure excludes school feeding programs, which are covered under recommendation 1.3.

- 2.3. With increased financing, the EFA-FTI will be expanded to support all low-income countries and fully cover early childhood education, secondary education, adult literacy, higher and vocational education.

3. Health

Even though Africa as a whole is off track to meeting the MDG targets, recent progress in the sector shows that the targets can be achieved across the continent. As underscored by the Africa Health Strategy, the health sector has many effective mechanisms for channelling international financing and technical support to countries in Africa. For example, the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria has successfully mobilized billions of dollars to fight infectious diseases and produced remarkable results across Africa. Likewise, the GAVI Alliance has contributed to a major spread of the use of vaccines. Fragmentation across initiatives is a major challenge that needs to be addressed by applying the Paris Declaration in health. The eight global health agencies (the 'H8'), the International Health Partnership (IHP), and Health and Harmonization in Africa (HHA) are effective in increasing harmonization and alignment among agencies. Of particular importance are the long-term compacts supported by the IHP to improve aid predictability and the results orientation of national health strategies. These and similar efforts in the sector require the full support of the international community.

Yet, several critical health areas are not receiving adequate support today. These include human resources for health and health systems management, maternal and reproductive health, family planning, and neglected tropical diseases. The international community must increase funding for existing mechanisms to address these gaps and invite African countries to prepare and submit bankable goal-based national strategies to meet the shortfall. Each financing mechanism will then contribute financing to the corresponding elements of a comprehensive national health strategy.

Action in these key areas will support countries in averting the health crisis affecting many parts of Africa and empower their people to live healthy and more productive lives. In this way, meeting the health MDGs in Africa will have a profound impact on poverty reduction and economic development.

Proposed key initiatives and recommendations to be endorsed by the Steering Group:

- 3.1. The international community will provide adequate financing (estimated to reach approximately US\$10 billion per year by 2010) for health systems windows under the Global Fund and the GAVI Alliance. These health systems windows will provide technical support and finance
 - Primary health systems (e.g. human resources including community health workers, operation of health facilities, construction of dispensaries and local health posts to ensure universal access, phasing out of user fees and other demand-side interventions); and
 - Emergency obstetric care available to all women by 2015
- 3.2. Financing through UNFPA for family planning and contraception will be increased to some US\$1 billion per year by 2010.
- 3.3. The international community will support African Governments in designing national systems of paid community health workers to address critical human resource shortages.
- 3.4. Donors will increase financing available through Global Fund and other mechanisms to fill financing gap for prevention, control and treatment of HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases in Africa, reaching some US\$17 billion by 2010.⁴ With this financing a dedicated US\$0.5–1.0 billion per year window for Neglected Tropical

⁴ E.g. to achieve universal access to AIDS treatment by 2010; to ensure access to long-lasting insecticide treated malaria nets for all populations in need; to ensure universal access to Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS) to fight TB.

Diseases will be set up under the Global Fund. Where unavailable detailed business plans for controlling these diseases will be developed by the health sector in coming months.

4. Infrastructure and trade facilitation

Lack of transport, power, ICT, water and other infrastructure services pose severe constraints on economic growth, trade and poverty reduction across Africa. For example, only some 3 percent of the rural population in Africa has access to electricity—one of the most essential inputs for modern economic growth. Yet, in spite of the widely recognized importance of investing in infrastructure in Africa, support for infrastructure remains pitifully low. In particular, investments in transformational energy generation projects, including large-scale hydropower, and transmission networks need to be increased sharply if the continent is to meet the MDGs.

Africa faces particularly high infrastructure investment needs. Low population densities lead to some of the highest per capita costs for infrastructure provision. Moreover, with 47 small economies, 15 landlocked countries, and 60 shared river basins, Africa's infrastructure needs have to be addressed in a regional manner if countries are to reap the economic benefits of regional integration and participation in the global economy. Scaling-up infrastructure investments and adequate expenditures for operation and maintenance will make a critical contribution towards trade facilitation.

The unfilled financing gap for infrastructure is estimated at about US\$42.6 billion per year. Some infrastructure investments – particularly energy – can attract substantial private co-financing while others (e.g. roads) require largely public financing. Half of the estimated annual US\$36 billion in public external financing for infrastructure are required for energy infrastructure with transport accounting for another US\$11 billion (see Table 1). Emerging donors (in particular China) are becoming increasingly important and now account for as much infrastructure financing as OECD countries. Critical financing challenges include strengthening co-financing with emerging donors, pioneering greater use of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) to leverage public financing, and mobilizing more ODA for infrastructure.

Another key challenge lies in the project-driven approach to scaling up infrastructure. Countries need to be supported in putting forward comprehensive infrastructure strategies and associated public expenditure programs that will close coverage gaps by 2015. This is particularly critical to ensure that Africa can use trade to stimulate growth and reduce poverty in pursuit of MDG 1.

Proposed key initiatives and recommendations to be endorsed by the Steering Group:

- 4.1. Substantially increase ODA for infrastructure in Africa with delivery through the infrastructure facilities set up by the AfDB, EC, IsDB, and World Bank, according to financing guidelines in Table 1.
- 4.2. Launch a “New Deal” for the energy sector to plan and build transformational generation and transmission facilities across Africa with special attention to the potential for hydropower projects. Where economically viable, geothermal, solar, and other large-scale renewable energy opportunities exist, they should also be prioritized.
- 4.3. The international community will finance pan-African infrastructure networks (e.g. roads, electricity pools, ICT), as outlined in the AU-NEPAD Infrastructure Short-Term Action Plan and other regional plans. This will require approximately US\$10 billion for power and transport, respectively, and an estimated one-off US\$2 billion for regional ICT connectivity.
- 4.4. Multilaterals need to strengthen collaboration with non-DAC donors to promote project co-financing and explore new hybrid financing instruments.
- 4.5. The Infrastructure Consortium for Africa shall be strengthened to support monitoring of infrastructure results, particularly in the transport and power sector to track progress

towards achieving the MDGs and to support the syndication of financing for national infrastructure strategies.

5. National statistical systems

Despite some recent progress, the availability of good quality, relevant statistics for development remains relatively weak in Africa. The fundamental causes are weaknesses in statistical capacity within national governments, and in some cases low demand for data from users. There is a vicious cycle at work; weak and under funded statistical systems produce poor quality or largely irrelevant statistics, and as a result users do not value the statistical products produced and resources levels and statistical capacity remains low.

With support from development partners countries need to increase public expenditure for national statistical systems to effectively monitor progress towards the MDGs and to implement the Marrakesh Action Plan for Statistics, which was adopted in 2004. An estimated \$1 billion will be required annually in external financing to support the investments and associated operating expenditure.

Proposed key initiatives and recommendations to be endorsed by the Steering Group:

- 5.1. Governments with support from development partners shall finance and implement bankable National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) to strengthen data systems and develop statistical capacity across Africa. Support for NSDS should be provided in the framework of the Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa (RRSF) – the regional follow-up mechanism to the Marrakesh Action Plan for Statistics.
- 5.2. Governments and the international community shall fully finance the 2010 census round, national systems for civil registration and vital statistics, and enhanced socioeconomic surveys across Africa.

6. Aid predictability

In spite of the commitments to increased and predictable aid flows made in the run-up to the 2005 World Summit including *inter alia* in the Monterrey Consensus, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and the G8 Gleneagles Summit, the magnitude and predictability of aid flows has not improved sufficiently in recent years. African countries do not know how much development assistance they will receive in coming years nor how it will be sequenced. The lack of aid predictability makes it virtually impossible for African countries to plan public investments and current expenditure in agriculture, health, education, and infrastructure projects and systems. Unless reasonably accurate aid disbursement schedules can be drawn up on a country-by-country basis and reflected in national macroeconomic programs, countries will not be in a position to effectively utilize increased development assistance should it be made available.

Following the adoption of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, awareness of the importance of aid predictability has increased at the technical level, but this has yet to translate into changes in donor practices that will enhance aid predictability sufficiently to ensure that African countries can initiate multi-year public expenditure programs to achieve the MDGs. All donors need to review their procedures and initiate the practical steps required to issue multi-year schedules for scaling up aid country by country.

Proposed key initiatives and recommendations to be endorsed by the Steering Group:

- 6.1. Each donor should provide a timetable for the fulfilment of the Monterrey, Gleneagles, and other commitments to increase development assistance, disaggregated into country-

by-country schedules for scaling up aid to reach across-Africa average of [US\$100]⁵ per capita by 2010 in 2007 dollars (equivalent to nominal US\$50bn or \$85 per capita in 2004 US\$, or approximately [\$65 billion]⁶ in 2007 2010 dollars, as committed at the Gleneagles Summit).

- 6.2. The World Bank, IMF, AfDB and UN system will assist African governments in designing policies and programs for the projected aid increases that will ensure effective use of these resources while maintaining macroeconomic growth and stability. It is recommended that Governments and development partners formalise compacts for each key sector that outline each others' roles and responsibilities to ensure financing commitments are met and program implementation advances. Examples of such compacts are the MDG Contracts supported by the European Commission and the Health Compacts implemented with support from the International Health Partnership.
- 6.3. Each country should reconfirm its intention to fully implement the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and its 2005 commitments to increase ODA, in line with the Monterrey Consensus commitment to make concrete efforts toward the target of Official Development Assistance equal to 0.7 percent of GNP.

7. Translating the MDGs into integrated programmes on the ground

The countries and communities where the poorest people live are the locus for implementing the MDGs, and it is here where the MDGs need to be translated into bankable programmes which are efficient, equitable, and accountable. However, to date, country programmes in Africa remain constrained by insufficient financing and do not spell out the full set of policies and supporting public expenditure needed to achieve the MDGs. Likewise, community-led development, which offers a good prospect of channelling resources directly to where they are most needed, remains sub-scale, suffering from a lack of financing and adequate institutional support. It will therefore be important to increase the absorptive capacity of local communities to carry out these investments and deliver services in an effective, equitable, and accountable manner.

The Steering Group offers an unprecedented opportunity to mobilize all of its members – including the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions – to support the design and implementation of MDG-based development strategies, as committed at the 2005 World Summit. Starting with the 2008 G8 Summit, the Group will present a number of concrete country cases that outline how increased financing can support the achievement of the MDGs. In this way the Steering Group will help push for translating the headline commitments on policies and financing into operational programmes that spell out the responsibility of Governments and development partners in implementing them.

Proposed key initiatives and recommendations to be endorsed by the Steering Group:

- 7.1. The AfDB, AU, IMF, UN system, and the World Bank will support the completion of “Gleneagles/MDG scenarios” across Africa to show how the international commitment to increase development assistance to Africa to an average of [US\$100]⁷ per capita, (\$85 per capita in 2004 US\$) by 2010 can be operationalised through the implementation of policies and programs at the country and community level.⁸
- 7.2. Members of the MDG Africa Steering Group will present Gleneagles/MDG scenarios at key international summits (e.g., G8 Summit in Japan, Accra High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, September MDG Summit, Doha Financing for Development Review Conference) to strengthen the call for follow-through on existing commitments to increase the volume and quality of development assistance to Africa.

⁵ Number to be revised based on revised DAC exchange rates that are scheduled to be released in March.

⁶ Number to be revised based on revised DAC exchange rates that are scheduled to be released in March.

⁷ Number to be revised based on revised DAC exchange rates that are scheduled to be released in March.

⁸ The first set of case study countries are: Benin, Central African Republic, Ghana, Liberia, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo, and Zambia. Other countries are encouraged to prepare similar scenarios.

- 7.3. UNDP will establish an MDG local capacity development fund to support the community-based capacity and institutions building needed to implement MDG policies and interventions at the community level.

Table 1: Summary of Scaling-up Opportunities in Africa

Scaling-up Opportunity	Objective and Specific Goals	Multilateral Financing Mechanism	Estimated Public External Funding Needs in 2010	Policy Leadership
Agricultural Productivity	<i>Launch the African Green Revolution:</i> * Doubling of food yields by 2012 * Transformation to commercial agriculture	Fund for African Green Revolution (perhaps housed at IFAD)	US\$8 billion per year, o/w half through a new Agriculture Fund that can be housed within an existing institution ⁱ	FAO, IFAD, World Bank, AU/NEPAD
Nutrition Programs	<i>Eliminate stunting and chronic malnutrition:</i> * Comprehensive coverage of micronutrients * Comprehensive school feeding * De-worming	UNICEF, World Food Program (expansion of existing efforts)	US\$2 billion per year ⁱⁱ	UNICEF, WFP, World Bank
Education	<i>Meet Education for All Goals:</i> * Early childhood * Universal primary education * Expansion sec. & higher education * Adult literacy * Gender equality in education	Education for All Fast Track Initiative	US\$8.3 billion per year ⁱⁱⁱ	UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank
Health Systems, Child Survival, Maternal Health	<i>Build effective primary health systems:</i> * Establishment of comprehensive primary health systems with focus on demand and supply-side interventions * Scaling-up of human resources for health, including paid community health workers * Universal access to immunization & key child survival interventions * Universal access to emergency obstetrical care, skilled birth attendants & other reproductive health services	GFATM health systems window & GAVI health systems window	US\$10 billion per year ^{iv}	UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO
Family Planning	<i>Universal access to family planning</i>	UNFPA	US\$1 billion per year ^v	UNFPA, WHO
Vertical Disease Control Programs	<i>Comprehensive control of AIDS, TB, Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), e.g.:</i> * Universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment by 2010 * Halving of malaria burden by 2010 (from 2000 levels) and malaria mortality reduction to near zero by 2012 * Implementation of Global Stop TB Plan of Action * Sharply reduced morbidity and mortality from NTDs	GFATM	Total US\$17 billion ^{vi} , o/w: * HIV/AIDS: US\$12 billion per year * Malaria: US\$2.4 billion per year * TB: US\$2.0 billion per year * NTDs: US\$0.5–1.0 billion per year	UNICEF, WHO

Table 1: Summary of Scaling-up Opportunities in Africa (contd.)

Scaling-up Opportunity	Objective and Specific Goals	Multilateral Financing Mechanism	Estimated Public External Funding Needs in 2010	Policy Leadership
Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation	<i>Adequate connectivity and infrastructure to increase productivity and ensure low-cost service delivery, e.g.:</i> * Regional networks for roads, rail, canals, power pools, ICT * Achievement of water and sanitation MDGs * Major expansion of rural and urban electrification * Major expansion of transport grids	World Bank-AfDB-EC led consortium facilitated by Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA)	Total US\$36 billion per year ^{vii} , o/w: * Energy: US\$18 billion per year * Transport: US\$11 billion per year * Water & Sanitation: US\$5.7 billion per year * ICT: US\$1 billion per year	AfDB, EC, World Bank
Community Institutions & Service Delivery	<i>Community-level capacity development</i> * Extension of community-based MDG implementation * Building of community institutions	UNDP MDG local capacity development fund	US\$1 billion over five years	UNDP
Statistics	<i>Implementation of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS):</i> * Successful 2010 census round * Comprehensive vital registration	Paris21 can syndicate	Some US\$1 billion per year ^{viii}	ECA, DESA, World Bank
Achieving the MDGs in Africa	<i>Comprehensive cross-sector public expenditure programs against clear quantitative targets</i>	<i>All multilateral, bilateral, private mechanisms providing high-quality, predictable financing.</i>	<i>Some US\$80 billion per year o/w [US\$65bn]^{ix} from DAC members (as per Gleneagles commitments, EU ODA targets, Monterrey Consensus) & rest from non-DAC donors, including Foundations</i>	<i>Secretary General & MDG Africa Steering Group, G8 leadership, African Union, Private Sector, Foundations.</i>

ⁱ Source: Adopted text of the Bellagio Working Group for the African Green Revolution (22 February 2008).

ⁱⁱ Assumes school feeding for all primary school children by 2010; source: UN Millennium Project estimates.

ⁱⁱⁱ Source: Thematic sub-Group on Education; Education Global Monitoring Report.

^{iv} Based on estimates by Commission on Macroeconomics and Health.

^v Source: UN Millennium Project.

^{vi} Source: GFATM "Resource needs for the Global Fund 2008-2010".

^{vii} Estimates cover only public external financing; source: Thematic sub-Group on Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation.

^{viii} Source: Paris21, Thematic sub-Group on Statistical Systems.

^{ix} Number to be revised based on revised DAC exchange rates that are scheduled to be released in March.

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Possible financing mechanisms and estimated financing needs are indicative only, pending refinement by lead institutions.

Table 1: Summary of Scaling-up Opportunities in Africa

Scaling-up Opportunity	Objective and Specific Goals	Key Multilateral Financing Mechanism (as one of several)	Preliminary Estimated Public External Funding Needs in 2010	Policy Leadership
Agricultural Productivity	<i>Launch the African Green Revolution through the CAADP framework:</i> * Doubling of food yields by 2012 * Transformation to commercial agriculture	Fund for African Green Revolution (perhaps housed at IFAD)	US\$8 billion per year, o/w half through a new Agriculture Fund that can be housed within an existing institution ⁱ	FAO, IFAD, World Bank, AU/NEPAD
Nutrition Programs	<i>Eliminate stunting and chronic malnutrition:</i> * Comprehensive coverage of micronutrients * Comprehensive school feeding * De-worming	UNICEF, World Food Program (expansion of existing efforts)	US\$2 billion per year ⁱⁱ	UNICEF, WFP, World Bank
Education	<i>Meet Education for All Goals and implement Plan of Action for Second Decade on Education:</i> * Early childhood * Universal primary education * Expansion sec. & higher education * Adult literacy * Gender equality in education	Education for All Fast Track Initiative	US\$8.3 billion per year ⁱⁱⁱ	AU, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank
Health Systems, Child Survival, Maternal Health	<i>Build effective primary health systems:</i> * Establishment of comprehensive primary health systems with focus on demand and supply-side interventions * Scaling-up of human resources for health, including paid community health workers * Universal access to immunization & key child survival interventions * Universal access to emergency obstetrical care, skilled birth attendants & other reproductive health services	GFATM health systems window & GAVI Alliance health systems window	US\$10 billion per year ^{iv}	UNICEF, WHO
Family Planning	<i>Universal access to family planning</i>	UNFPA	US\$1 billion per year ^v	UNFPA, WHO
Vertical Disease Control Programs	<i>Comprehensive control of AIDS, TB, Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), e.g.:</i> * Universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment by 2010 * Halving of malaria burden by 2010 (from 2000 levels) and malaria mortality reduction to near zero by 2012 * Implementation of Global Stop TB Plan of Action * Sharply reduced morbidity and mortality from NTDs	GFATM	Total US\$17 billion ^{vi} , o/w: * HIV/AIDS: US\$12 bn per year * Malaria: US\$2.4 bn per year * TB: US\$2.0 bn per year * NTDs: US\$0.5–1.0 bn per year	UNAIDS, UNICEF, WHO

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Table 1: Summary of Scaling-up Opportunities in Africa (contd.)

Scaling-up Opportunity	Objective and Specific Goals	Key Multilateral Financing Mechanism (as one of several)	Preliminary Estimated Public External Funding Needs in 2010	Policy Leadership
Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation	<i>Adequate connectivity and infrastructure to increase productivity and ensure low-cost service delivery, e.g.:</i> * Regional networks for roads, rail, canals, power pools, ICT * Achievement of water and sanitation MDGs * Major expansion of rural and urban electrification * Major expansion of transport grids	World Bank-AfDB-EC led consortium facilitated by Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA)	Total US\$36 billion per year ^{vii} , o/w: * Energy: US\$18 billion per year * Transport: US\$11 billion per year * Water & Sanitation: US\$5.7 billion per year * ICT: US\$1 billion per year	AfDB, EC, World Bank
Statistics	<i>Implementation of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS):</i> * Successful 2010 census round * Comprehensive vital registration * Harmonization of statistics across Africa	Paris21 may syndicate financing	Some US\$1 billion per year ^{viii}	ECA, DESA, World Bank
<i>Achieving the MDGs in Africa</i>	<i>Comprehensive cross-sector public expenditure programs against clear quantitative targets</i>	<i>All multilateral, bilateral, private mechanisms providing high-quality, predictable financing.</i>	<i>Some US\$80 billion per year o/w [US\$65bn]^{ix} from DAC members (as per Gleneagles commitments, EU ODA targets, Monterrey Consensus) & rest from non-DAC donors, including Foundations</i>	<i>Secretary General & MDG Africa Steering Group, G8 leadership, African Union, Private Sector, Foundations.</i>

ⁱ Source: Adopted text of the Bellagio Working Group for the African Green Revolution (22 February 2008).

ⁱⁱ Assumes school feeding for all primary school children by 2010; source: UN Millennium Project estimates.

ⁱⁱⁱ Source: Thematic Sub-Group on Education; Education Global Monitoring Report.

^{iv} Based on estimates by Commission on Macroeconomics and Health.

^v Source: UN Millennium Project.

^{vi} Source: GFATM "Resource needs for the Global Fund 2008-2010".

^{vii} Estimates cover only public external financing; source: Thematic sub-Group on Infrastructure and Trade Facilitation.

^{viii} Source: Paris21, Thematic Sub-Group on Statistical Systems.

^{ix} Number to be revised based on revised DAC exchange rates that are scheduled to be released in March.

10 March 2008

Dear Members of the International Donor Community,

This year marks the midpoint between the Millennium Summit in 2000 and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. To achieve the MDGs, two things are important: firstly, countries need to persevere with strong domestic policies, including prudent management of domestic and external resources; and secondly, the international community needs to support these efforts. Expectations are understandably high for substantial actions by the international community to help Africa attain the Goals. While significant progress has been made since 2000, Africa as a region is not yet on track to meet the MDGs.

As the heads of the multilateral development system, we have therefore come together under the MDG Africa Steering Group to identify the key practical steps that the world can take to support Africa's efforts to reach the MDGs. We are writing to share some initial findings with you. In many sectors, concerted implementation of existing commitments—rather than new initiatives—would be sufficient to meet the Goals. We would like to explore with you how we can jointly achieve the implementation breakthroughs on these commitments that are necessary for the MDGs.

A rapidly growing number of success stories in Africa demonstrate that the MDGs are achievable if rigorous government programmes are backed up with adequate financing, including development assistance. Evidence shows that well-designed programmes—such as the recent efforts to reduce child mortality in Malawi, improve water and sanitation in Senegal, and expand primary education in Tanzania—offer tremendous opportunities for the deployment of scaled-up aid. Similarly, the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), and the US PEPFAR initiative have shown how international financing mechanisms can support countries in achieving impressive results. We also know that the macroeconomic and public finance challenges raised by increased aid flows can be addressed through sound economic policies and carefully planned investments.

The MDG Africa Steering Group has identified two key issues that need to be addressed in order to take advantage of existing opportunities to support faster progress toward achieving the MDGs: first, aid volumes are not yet in line with existing international commitments; and second, the disbursement of development finance is not sufficiently predictable at the country level. We are writing to draw your attention to the urgent need

to address these issues and to offer our assistance in ensuring the effective use of larger and more predictable aid flows.

Governments across the world committed to increase official development assistance (ODA) at the 2005 Gleneagles G8 Summit and the May 2005 European Council, amongst other events, in the run up to the UN World Summit in 2005. Yet, progress in meeting these commitments, as summarized in the OECD's *Development Co-operation Report 2007*, has fallen short. African governments, like those in other developing regions, are concerned that existing commitments to increase ODA, in line with the 2002 Monterrey Consensus which promised concrete efforts toward the target of ODA equivalent to 0.7 percent of GNP, may not materialize. To address these concerns we call on donor governments to publish during 2008 a detailed medium-term schedule by which development assistance will be increased to meet their individual commitments between now and 2015.

In order for increases in development finance to be used effectively by recipient governments, ODA also needs to be disbursed more predictably at the country level. African Finance Ministers drew attention to the urgent need for greater aid predictability at their meeting in Addis Ababa during April 2007. According to the preliminary results of a 2007 survey of donor practices by the OECD's Development Assistance Committee, there are already multiple precedents that allow for greater predictability in the country-level disbursement of ODA. With these precedents in mind, we would urge donor governments to begin preparing and sharing with their aid recipients medium-term disbursement schedules that spell out how their commitments to increase their ODA disbursements will be realized at the country level. This would serve as a tangible reconfirmation of donors' intention to implement fully the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Such schedules could be prepared over the next few months, shared with aid recipients, and featured at the Accra High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness during September 2008. This would allow our organizations to support recipient governments in carefully programming the effective use of additional resources to produce results.

We look forward to the opportunities provided by the IMF-World Bank Spring Meetings during April and the Hokkaido G8 Summit during July to discuss the practical steps that donor countries can take to make their aid more substantial and its disbursements more predictable. Looking further into 2008, the UN Secretary-General will convene a high-level summit on the MDGs on 25 September at which we hope to highlight donors' efforts to increase the volume and predictability of their development assistance.

We thank donor governments in advance for their important leadership on this work. The UN Secretary-General stands ready, on behalf of the MDG Africa Steering Group, to respond to any further suggestions and opportunities for the Group to enhance support for the achievement of the MDGs.

Yours sincerely,

Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations

Donald Kaberuka
President
African Development Bank

Alpha Oumar Konaré
President
African Union

José Manuel Barroso
President
European Commission

Dominique Strauss-Kahn
Managing Director
International Monetary Fund

Ahmad Mohamed Ali Al-Madani
President
Islamic Development Bank Group

Angel Gurría
Secretary-General
Organization for Economic Cooperation
and Development

Robert Zoellick
President
The World Bank Group

List of Participants

Second MDG Africa Steering Group meeting

(updated on 07 March, 2008)

10 March 2008

UN Secretariat, Conference Room 6

INSTITUTION	STEERING GROUP MEMBERS	TITLE
OSG	Ban Ki-moon	UN Secretary-General (Chair of the MDG Africa Steering Group)
	Asha-Rose Migiro	UN Deputy-Secretary General
	Parfait Onanga	Director, Office of the Deputy Secretary-General
	Michele Montas	SG's Spokesman's Office
AfDB	Donald Kaberuka	President
	Hailu Mekonnen	Poverty Expert
	Anne Kabamgambe	Manager, Office of the President
	A. Osakwe (press conf.)	Economist
African Union (AU)	H.E. Prof Alpha Oumar Konaré	Chairperson of the African Union Commission
	Maxwell Mkwezalamba	Commissioner for Economic Affairs
	Amb. Lila H. Ratsifandrihamanana	Permanent Representative, Permanent Observer Mission of the African Union to the United Nations
	Abdoul Kader Touré	Special Assistant to the Chairperson
	El Obied (press conf.)	Senior Economist, Permanent Observer Mission of the African Union to the United Nations
World Bank	Robert Zoellick	President
	Obiageli Ezekwesili	Vice-President for Africa Region
	Elizabeth White	Senior Strategy and Operations Officer
	Keiko Miwa	Assistant to the President, World Bank
	Ferid Belhaj (press conf.)	Special Representative of the World Bank to the United Nations
EC	Louis Michel	EC Commissioner
	Bernard Petit	Deputy Director General of DG Development and Member of the Working Group
	Karin Gardes-Koutny	Member of Cabinet of the Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid
	Denis Baresch	European Commission Delegation in NY

INSTITUTION	STEERING GROUP MEMBERS	TITLE
International Monetary Fund	Dominique Strauss-Kahn	Managing Director
	Benedicte Christensen	Acting Director, African Department
	Calvin McDonald	Advisor, African Department
	Barry H. Potter	Special Representative to the United Nations
Islamic Development Bank	Mohammed Ennifar	Senior Adviser to the Vice President (Operations)
OECD/DAC	Angel Gurría	Secretary-General
	David Batt	Director of the Africa Partnership Forum Support Unit
	Brian Hammond	Counsellor to the Director's office on Aid Architecture, Development Co-operation Directorate
	Nicolas Bray	Acting Director, Public Affairs and Communications Directorate
	Sandra Wilson (press conf.)	OECD Washington D.C
UNDG	Kemal Dervis	Administrator
	Gilbert Houngbo	Director, Regional Directors Team & UNDP Africa
	Lamin Manneh	Head, Regional and Strategic Initiatives Unit, Regional Bureau of Africa
	Rosemary Nuamah	Policy Advisor
WFP (observer)	Sheila Sisulu	Deputy Executive Director, WFP
	Allan Jury	Director of External Relations Divisions
UN Special Advisor for MDGs (observer)	Jeffrey Sachs	Special Advisor to the Secretary-General

**MDG Africa Steering Group
Draft Plan for Group Photograph
Foyer, Delegates' Dining Room 6, General Assembly Building
10 March 2008**

[Photograph background]

IsDB	EC	AfDB	African Union	Secretary- General	World Bank	IMF	OECD
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