The Millennium Development Goals

In September of the year 2000, leaders of 189 countries met at the United Nations in New York and endorsed the Millennium Declaration, a commitment to work together to build a safer, more prosperous and equitable world. The Declaration was translated into a roadmap setting out eight time-bound and measurable goals to be reached by 2015, known as the Millennium Development Goals, namely:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
   • Reduce by half the proportion of people whose income is less than $1 a day
   • Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people
   • Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

2. Achieve universal primary education
   • Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling

3. Promote gender equality and empower women
   • Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

4. Reduce child mortality
   • Reduce by two thirds the mortality of children under five

5. Improve maternal health
   • Reduce maternal mortality by three quarters
   • Achieve universal access to reproductive health

6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
   • Halt and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS
   • Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it
   • Halt and reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

7. Ensure environmental sustainability
   • Integrate principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse the loss of environmental resources
   • Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss
   • Halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
   • Improve the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020

8. Develop a global partnership for development
   • Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system
   • Address special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing States
   • Deal comprehensively with developing countries’ debt
   • In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries
   • In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies

For more information, please visit: www.un.org/millenniumgoals

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