UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

"The Role of the Private Sector in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals" Conference Room #2 Thursday 17 November, 2005 10:00am – 12:00pm

Summary:

It is increasingly evident that the private sector and civil society must play an important role if we are to meet the world's development challenges. This event will bring business and civil society leaders from various regions of the world to highlight how the private sector is contributing to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through their core business competencies, social investments and advocacy. There will be a special emphasis on impact on-the-ground in developing countries, and how market solutions can help to advance United Nations goals.

- What are the incentives for businesses to engage in contributing to the MDGs?
- What are the opportunities, challenges and risks?
- How can business innovations and solutions be scaled-up?

- How can responsible business practices as promoted by the Global Compact contribute to the MDGs?

- How can we work to improve business interactions with the United Nations system and donor agencies in contributing to the MDGs?

Agenda:

10:15-10:30	Opening Remarks by the Vice-Chairperson and Moderator Mr. Juraj Koudelka (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairperson, Second Committee
10:30-10:40	Mr. Arun Maira, Chairman, The Boston Consulting Group, India
10:40-10:50	Mr. Jeremy Hobbs, Executive Director, Oxfam International
10:50-11:00	Mr. Herman Mulder, Senior Executive Vice President, ABN AMRO
11:00-11:10	Mr. Sam Jonah, Former President, AngloGold Ashanti
11:10-11:55	Interactive Discussion
11:55-12:00	Concluding Remarks

This event has been organized by the Bureau of the Second Committee.

Confirmed Speakers and Biographies:

1. Mr. Arun Maira, Chairman, The Boston Consulting Group, India: A thought leader on the subjects of transformational change and leadership, Mr. Maira writes regularly in the Economic Times in India and other management and business journals. His recent books are, "Remaking India: One Country, One Destiny", and "Shaping the Future: Aspirational Leadership in India and Beyond". Mr. Maira has worked in several senior positions in India and abroad, from 1965 to 1989 with the Tata Group which is well known for its emphasis on community development and environment improvement along with high standards of business performance. Thereafter, he worked with Arthur D. Little Inc, the international management consultancy, in the USA from 1989 to 1999, and consulted with companies across the world. Mr. Maira is an active member of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and chairs its National Council for Natural Capital Conservation and Development and Leadership Summit.

2. Mr. Jeremy Hobbs, Executive Director, Oxfam International: Mr. Hobbs became Executive Director of Oxfam International in October 2001, having served on the Oxfam International Board since its inception in his capacity as Executive Director of the Australian affiliate Oxfam Community Aid Abroad. Mr. Hobbs has wide experience in advocacy, both in lobbying governments and working with the private sector, experience in many aspects of community development, and in NGO management, marketing and fundraising, both domestically and internationally. He was the Executive Director of Oxfam Community Aid Abroad from 1993 until 2001, having worked in a variety of roles in the organization for ten years. He provided a strong focus on Indigenous rights and race issues in Australia and on the campaign for the rights of the people of East Timor. He also played a key role in establishing Oxfam New Zealand.

3. Mr. Herman Mulder, Senior Executive Vice President, ABN AMRO: During his 26 years with ABN AMRO, Mr. Mulder has held a number of senior positions including Global Head of Structured Finance, encompassing the combined global businesses of Credit Structuring, Project Finance, Leveraged Finance, Financial Engineering and Syndications. His extensive experience in Emerging Markets is illustrated by his post-Asia Crisis appointment as non-executive director at the then ABN AMRO subsidiary, Bank of Asia (Thailand). As an authority on risk management, Mr. Mulder's views are frequently sought by international forums on sustainable development, infrastructure development, local capital markets development, international capital markets, Basel II and International Trade. Mr. Mulder was one of the founding initiators of the Equator Principles which subsequently have been accepted by the market as best practice for environmental risk management of infrastructure development in emerging markets.

4. Mr. Sam Jonah, Former President, AngloGold Ashanti: Until recently, Sir Sam Jonah was the Executive President of AngloGold Ashanti Ltd, the world's second largest gold producer with 24 mines in 14 countries worldwide. From 1986 until June 2005 Mr. Jonah led the transformation of Ashanti from a one-mine operation into a multinational. In 1996, Ashanti, which had listings in London and Ghana, became the first operating African company to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange. In December 2004, CNN / Time named Mr. Jonah one of the 25 Business Influentials setting the global standards for management, ethics, marketing and innovation. Currently, Mr. Jonah is the Non Executive President of AngloGold Ashanti and the Executive Chairman of Equator Exploration Company.