

SECOND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS FORUM:
“Designing Roadmaps for Mobilizing Private Sector Resources for Development”
November 28th, 2008; Doha, Qatar

The Business Sector Steering Committee with support from the Financing for Development Office of the United Nations and the Government of Qatar is organizing the second International Business Forum, which will take place on 28 November 2008.

The second International Business Forum will provide a venue for dialogue between high level business and government leaders committed to reaching a positive outcome from the Monterrey Consensus. It will cover business insights and ideas intended to assist government delegations to progress towards a workable policy framework. The day will cover the integrated dimensions of presenting performance to date, challenges, and proposals that serve to implement the Monterrey Consensus objective of mobilizing private sector resources and contribute to widespread development across all developing countries.

AGENDA: The meeting format will ensure a quality discussion among invited participants and speakers. Two plenary (opening and closing) sessions will feature leading UN, Government and Private Sector speakers. Five issue sessions will have short key note topical addresses followed by a panel discussion. The issue sessions are designed for maximum dialogue among participants.

PARTICIPANTS: Invited participants include Heads of State, senior delegations of all country governments, development banks, and leading figures from the private sector and civil society.

Opening Plenary: *A Shared long term Vision: From Monterrey to Doha, Assessment of Private Sector Contributions to the “Monterrey Promise” and Future Recommendations.*

Issue Sessions:

- Improving Investor Information**
- Creating Business Enabling Environments**
- Mobilizing Inclusive Finance**
- Increasing Trade Capacity**
- Mobilizing Infrastructure Finance and More Effective Risk Mitigation**
- The New Business Paradigm and Meeting the Challenges of Climate Change**

Closing Plenary: *What is an optimal framework for Financing for Development follow-up within a multi-stakeholder strategy? What are the suggested strategies for developing country governments, development agencies and the private sector to strengthen FfD implementation?*

CONTACT: For more information, please contact the International Chamber of Commerce (lea.felluss@iccwbo.org).

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FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS FORUM

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United Nations Financing for Development

Background Note

The International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002) signalled a turning point in the approach to development cooperation by the international community. It was the first United Nations-sponsored summit-level meeting to address key financial and related issues pertaining to global development. The Conference succeeded in placing financing for development firmly on the global agenda.

The opening of this political space was undoubtedly a key factor in the eventual success of the Financing for Development (FfD) process. Another was the unprecedented collaborative effort involving the United Nations, the World Bank, IMF and WTO, along with other actors at the international and regional level. Especially noteworthy was the quality of engagement of civil society and the business sector, who became active partners during the process.

Responding to the multidimensional nature of the global development challenge, the Monterrey Conference had a broad agenda covering six major interrelated themes, each integral to financing for development. These were adopted in the “Monterrey Consensus” as the Leading Actions to follow:

1. Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development;
2. Mobilizing international resources for development: foreign direct investment and other private flows;
3. International trade as an engine for development;
4. Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development;
5. External debt, and
6. Addressing systemic issues: enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development.

The “Monterrey Consensus” reflects both the broad agenda and holistic approach that have characterized the process. Far from being an end point, the Consensus establishes a veritable platform on which to build a new global alliance for development, encompassing all relevant actors at the global, regional and national levels. This alliance is premised on full ownership by developing countries of their development and a renewed commitment on the part of the international community to support development efforts of those countries.

The General Assembly of the United Nations has decided to hold a follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus in Doha, Qatar from 29 November to 2 December 2008. The Conference will assess progress made, reaffirm goals and commitments, share best practices and lessons learned, and identify obstacles and constraints encountered, actions and initiatives to overcome them and important measures for further implementation, as well as *new challenges and emerging issues*.

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