

## Expert Group Meeting

### Globalization and Poverty Reduction: Can the Rural Poor Benefit from Globalization?

New York, 8-9 November 2001  
Conference Room, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Two UN Plaza

#### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

##### Day 1

##### Session 1: Opening

930-1000 Opening address by *Mr John Langmore*  
Director, Division for Social Policy and Development, DESA

Participants' self-introduction

1000-1130 **Session 2: Overview of poverty reduction strategies**  
Chair: *Mr Atiqur Rahman, Lead Strategist and Policy Coordinator, IFAD*

Presentation by  
*Mr Paul Shaffer*, University of Toronto, Canada

Discussant  
*Mr Peter Townsend, LSE, University of London*

Open debate

1130-1145 Break

1145-1300 **Session 3: Experience with rural poverty alleviation**  
Chair: *Mr Selim Jahan, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP*

What has been the experience with rural poverty alleviation? What has worked, what has not? What are the "proven" elements of successful rural poverty alleviation programmes?

Presentation by  
*Mr Atiqur Rahman, Lead Strategist and Policy Coordinator, IFAD*

Open debate

1300-1400 Lunch break

1400-1530 **Session 4: The links between globalization and rural poverty alleviation.**  
Chair: *Mr David Reed, Macroeconomics for Sustainable Devt. Program Office, WWF*

Presentation by  
*Mr Selim Jahan, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP*  
*Ms Vigdis Broch-Due, The Research Council of Norway*

Open debate

1530-1545 Break

1545-1745

**Session 5: Reaching the rural poor**

Chair: *Mr Paul Shaffer, University of Toronto, Canada*

What are the policies, instruments and mechanisms at the disposal of governments of developing countries to transmit the benefits of globalization to the rural poor or to protect vulnerable groups from (further) marginalization by the globalization process? How do these fit in, for instance, with the PRSPs?

Presentation by

*Mr Malcolm Bale, Sector Manager, Rural Devt. in East Asia Region, World Bank*

*Mr David Reed, Macroeconomics for Sustainable Development Program Office, WWF*

*Mr Selim Jahan, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP*

Discussant (if paper arrives on time)

*Mr Atiqur Rahman, Lead Strategist and Policy Coordinator, IFAD*

Open Debate

**Day 2**

0930-1100

**Session 6: National/regional experiences**

Chair: *Mr Peter Townsend, LSE, University of London*

How much has globalization really benefitted the rural poor and what were the crucial determinants in this process.

Africa *Mr Makha Sarr, Consultant (West/Central Africa)*

Asia *Ms Linda Low, University of Singapore*

Economies in Transition *Mr Olympos Katsiaouni, DSPD, UNDESA and Mr Jaroslaw Gorniak, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland*

1100-1115

Break

1115-1300

Open debate

1300-1400

Lunch break

1400-1615

**Session 7: Panel: Role of the United Nations**

Chair: *Mr John Langmore, Director, DSPD*

What is the role the United Nations can play in assisting developing countries in channeling the benefits of globalization to the rural poor? What is the United Nations' role vis-à-vis other international organizations and NGOs?

Presentation by

*Mr Peter Townsend, LSE, University of London*

*Mr Selim Jahan, Bureau for Development Policy, UNDP*

*Ms Yvette Stevens, OSCAL, UNDESA*

*Mr Peter Gudgeon, DSPD, UNDESA*

*Mr David Reed, Macroeconomics for Sustainable Development Program Office, WWF*

1615-1630

Break

1630-1745

Open Debate

**Wrap up session - Closing remarks**