



**Permanent Representation of Belgium  
to the United Nations**

823 United Nations Plaza  
345 East 46<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor  
New York, NY 10017  
Tel. (212) 378 6300  
Fax (212) 681 7618

**The Ambassador's Office**



**MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DU MALI  
AUPRÈS DES NATIONS UNIES**

111 East 69th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021  
Tel: (212) 737-4150 • Fax: (212) 472-3778  
E-mail: malionu@aol.com

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Excellency,

**INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS OF THE PLENARY ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE  
SUMMIT OUTCOME ON DEVELOPMENT AND ECOSOC REFORM:  
ELEMENTS OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all those of you who have had a break during the holiday season back to New York. We look forward to working with you as we bring our important work into its final stages.

We are grateful for the practical, constructive approach Member States have taken to our discussions to date. There is, as the President of the General Assembly observed in his letter of 22 December, 'a shared determination to create a more effective ECOSOC and ensure prompt and thorough follow-up to the Summit Outcome on development, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals that emerged from the major UN conferences and summits'.

In order to promote further implementation as soon as possible, and to enable ECOSOC to put the reforms in place in 2006, the President suggested in his letter of 22 December that we should bring our negotiations to a conclusion at the beginning of the New Year.

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

During the consultations through November and December 2005, we received a substantial volume of comments from Member States, both in writing and from the floor. As we remarked at the end of our last consultations on 20 December, these contributions gave us a solid basis from which to prepare Elements of Draft Resolutions, both on Development Follow-up and ECOSOC Reform. We are pleased to attach these Elements Papers to this letter. They represent our best effort to find common ground based upon the ideas all of you have presented.

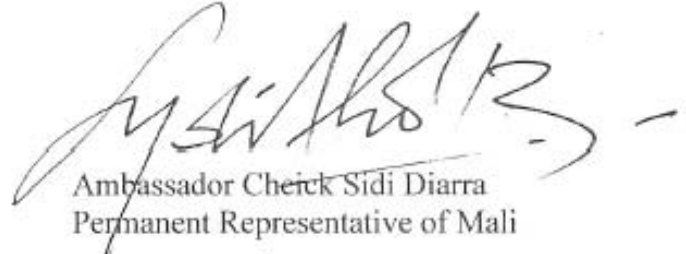
We would propose that, at our next consultation at 10am on 13 January, we read through and take specific suggestions on the Elements Paper on ECOSOC Reform, and that at our meeting on 16 January we do likewise with the Elements Paper on Development Follow-up. We will make suggestions for the subsequent stage of our consultations at the end of our meeting on 16 January in light of the progress made, but would very much hope to continue to move forward so as to bring our discussions to a conclusion in the near future.

Needless to say, we both remain at your disposal should you wish to discuss any aspect of these consultations with us at any time.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Ambassador Johan C. Verbeke  
Permanent Representative of Belgium



Ambassador Cheick Sidi Diarra  
Permanent Representative of Mali