



Summary Report

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The High-Level Meeting on Africa's development needs took place at a time of both promise and challenge for the continent. While on one the hand some African countries have shown strong Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth and progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) over the last few years, rising world prices for food and oil, climate change and intractable violent conflicts threaten to reverse these gains. The meeting provided an opportunity for world leaders to come together and renew their commitments to Africa's development and focus on how to address the remaining challenges. It adopted by consensus, a *Political Declaration on "Africa's development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward"* *A/RES/63/1 (General Assembly Resolution 63/1)*, which conveyed a strong signal of Africa's commitments to its future, and the renewal of the international community's partnership for Africa's development.
2. The meeting reviewed the implementation of all commitments made to and by African countries in order to comprehensively address the special development needs of the continent. The main document for the review was the Secretary-General's report on Africa's development needs. The report highlighted Africa's underlying development needs and challenges, including the lack of human and institutional capacity to design and implement sound policies and recurrent armed conflicts. The report considered implementation of pledges made by international development partners in such key areas as international development assistance, debt relief and debt cancellation, trade liberalization and aid for trade, peace and security. It also analyzed the role of the United Nations in supporting the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development Needs (NEPAD) and assessed progress in attaining the MDGs on the continent. The report concluded that meeting Africa's development needs is within reach, provided that African states and the international community act with determination to turn existing commitments into concrete actions.
3. The meeting was greatly enriched by the assembly of expertise at the fifteen Side Events, which focused, *inter alia*, on women and development; the food crisis; energy; and the challenges of governance, organized by the United Nations organizations and departments in collaboration with other partners. The views and conclusions reached at the Side Events echoed the priorities highlighted in the roundtables.
4. The High-Level Meeting was attended by Member States, civil society organizations, intergovernmental organizations, UN system agencies, funds and programmes, as well as the Bretton Woods Institutions (BWIs), the World Trade Organization, the regional development banks, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and leading representatives of the private sector in Africa.

II. PLENARY

5. Strong statements of support for Africa were made in the plenary session, *inter-alia*: by the President of the 63rd General Assembly Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann; the Secretary-General of the United Nations; Chairman of the African Union, President Kikwete; President Sarkozy, in his capacity as the then President of the European Union; the former Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Mori; the

German Development Cooperation Minister; Chairman of the G-77 and China; the President of the European Commission; and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

6. **H.E. Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann**, President of the UN General Assembly, opened the plenary. He noted that total Official Development Assistance (ODA) had decreased from 0.33% of GDP in 2005 to 0.28% in 2007, and called upon developed countries to increase ODA levels to meet the commitments undertaken in Monterrey. He urged the G8 to double ODA for Africa by 2010 as promised at the G8 Summit at Gleneagles, Scotland in 2005. **Mr. Ban Ki-Moon**, UN Secretary-General, pointed out that, on current trends, no African country will achieve all the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015, but that the goals remain achievable in Africa if concerted action is taken by African countries and their development partners. He emphasized that the MDG Africa Steering Group assessed that US\$72 billion per year is necessary to achieve the goals by 2015. He urged that today should be “the day to strengthen commitments to change the course of history and bring development to Africa and the rest of the world.” **H.E. Mr. Jakaya Kikwete**, President of Tanzania and Chairman of the African Union, observed that resources provided by developed countries have not been sufficient to lift Africa out of the poverty trap and called for a renewed effort to meet commitments. He noted that G8 assistance had increased by only US\$2.3 billion since 2004 and if current trends continue, it would not be possible to achieve the MDGs. He underscored that Africa is not “a hopeless case,” but needs the support of the international development community.
7. **H.E. Nicolas Sarkozy**, President of France, speaking on behalf of the European Union, emphasized the European Union’s commitment to Africa’s development, and reaffirmed its commitment to provide 0.7% of GNI as ODA by 2015. He explained that education and health remain at the center of the EU aid strategy and noted the need to transform family agriculture, to increase yields and protect the environment in order to have an impact on poverty. **H.E. Ms. Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul**, Germany Minister for Development Cooperation, underscored Germany’s commitment to fulfill its G8 pledge made at Gleneagles to double aid by 2010. She expressed support for using revenues from the auctioning of carbon credits for development and adaptation to the impact of climate change. Attributing the current crisis in the global banking system to lack of transparency in the financial markets, she called for a reliable regulatory framework for global financial markets and the need to strengthen efforts to build efficient and fair tax systems in developing countries. She emphasized the potential of raising \$500 billion in developing and developed Countries through halting tax avoidance and evasion.
8. **H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori**, Former Prime Minister of Japan, outlined the outcomes of the Fourth Tokyo International Conference for Africa (TICAD IV), including the pledge by Japan to double ODA to Africa and to double private investment in the continent by 2012. The Yokohama Declaration undertakes to: strengthen Africa’s economic growth and enhance institutional capacity; human resource development; agriculture; and trade and investment. Mr. Mori emphasized Japan’s priorities for supporting the MDGs, including; health, water and sanitation, education and food. **Ambassador John Ashe**, Antigua and Barbuda spoke on behalf of G77 and China. He noted that Africa has enhanced its accountability and governance and stressed that the focus of the meeting should be on implementation, more effective aid delivery mechanisms, and increased flexibility, and predictability of assistance to facilitate long-term planning by African states. **Mr. José Manuel Barroso**, President of the European Commission noted that the EU provides 60% of all the aid that

Africa received. He emphasized that three of the most important challenges for Africa include the rising price of food, climate change, and energy insecurity. He noted that the partnership between African countries and the EU will help tackle these challenges. Mr. Barroso recalled that the European Commission has proposed a one 1 billion Euro Food Facility to promote agricultural production by improving poor farmers' access to inputs, such as fertilizers and seeds. **Mr. Jean Ping**, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, stressed that the time had come for implementation, including the need for a firm schedule, funding commitments and a tangible strategy. He noted that NEPAD gives Africa a strong ownership of development processes and emphasized the importance of mobilizing resources and improving coordinated actions by the UN agencies in Africa.

III. ROUND TABLES

9. The plenary was followed by four round table discussions co-chaired by heads of state from Africa and leaders from around the world¹. Two round tables took place in the morning and the other two in the afternoon (*see annex for details on round table distribution*)², during which open and direct debate took place on "Africa's development needs, state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward." During the round tables, delegations raised a number of issues including challenges in the achievement of the MDGs, partnerships, resource mobilization, debt relief, trade, and challenges of peace and security within Africa.
10. **Achievement of the MDGS** - many delegations took the opportunity to outline the critical issues to be addressed in the Political Declaration, namely: advancing progress on the Aid for Trade Initiative, including technical assistance; implementing internationally agreed development goals, in order to achieve the MDGs and implementing NEPAD; enhancing the human resource base, and addressing the impact of climate change and high cost of food and energy. Many speakers noted the daunting challenges facing Africa including extreme poverty, wide spread hunger and malnutrition, deadly diseases and the search for lasting peace and security. Delegations noted that the current global financial crisis, climate change, soaring energy prices, and the volatility of international financial markets exacerbated the region's difficulty in overcoming extreme poverty and achieving the MDGs.
11. **Partnership** - on the global partnership with Africa, many speakers acknowledged the gap between the stated development agenda for Africa and the follow-through on the part of African countries and their international development partners. Delegates expressed their determination to meet existing commitments, renew political will and strengthen the partnership with Africa at the highest level to ensure that Africa's development needs are met and Africa is fully mainstreamed into the

¹ **Round table 1- co-chaired by** H.E. Mr. John Agyekum Kufour, President of the Republic of Ghana and H.E. Mr. Haris Silajdzic, Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina; **Round table 2- co-chaired by** H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and H.E. Ms. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland; **Round table 3 – co-chaired by** H.E. Mr. Abdulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal and H.E. Mr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; and **Round table 4 chaired by** H.E. Mr. Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires, President of the Republic of Cape Verde.

² Links to all statements - <http://www.un.org/ga/president/62/ThematicDebates/adnhlm.shtml>

global economy. Delegates further stressed the importance of South-South and triangular cooperation, and the role of the private sector in Africa's economic renewal.

12. **Resource mobilization** - on financing, delegates called for: the mobilization of new and additional resources, particularly for the agricultural sector; comprehensive debt relief; improving market access; and fulfilling ODA commitments made at the G8 Gleneagles Summit. Several speakers expressed concern regarding the collapse of the Doha Development Round in July 2008, particularly in relation to the global partnership for Africa and Food Security, in the context of the implementation of the AU/NEPAD Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP). Many delegations highlighted country measures taken and the challenges faced in attaining the MDGs, particularly with regard to resources.
13. **Debt relief and trade** - many of the developing country delegations acknowledged progress in debt relief. However, they stressed that these measures were not a substitute for increasing ODA; that prohibitive conditionalities were often imposed; resources were not always fairly provided; and that infrastructure development should not be neglected while attending to social concerns. They noted that where private sector capacity was lacking, governments should take the lead in implementing the NEPAD programmes and that the successful conclusion of the Doha Round of the World Trade Organization (WTO) would be a critical part of this process. Several delegations noted that while African economies were growing, this was overshadowed by increasing levels of poverty and inequality as well as failure to create jobs.
14. **Peace and security** - delegates underscored the importance of working together to overcome the constraints, meet the challenges, and secure lasting development. They stressed that development is not possible without peace and highlighted the need to reduce threats to Africa's development by ending endemic violent conflicts, respecting human rights, eliminating social inequalities, consolidating the rule of law, ensuring political reforms, and improving governance.

IV. PRESS CONFERENCE

15. The press conference provided a good opportunity for the current chairman of the African Union, **President Jakaya Kikwete** together with the President of the African Development Bank, **Dr. Donald Kaberuka** to answer specific questions on Africa from UN-based correspondents. President Kikwete said that Africa had made great progress in establishing the institutional architecture for the promotion of peace and security on the continent, which included the African Union Peace and Security Council, an Early-Warning System, the Panel of the Wise and the African Standby Force. Dr. Kaberuka noted that, core Official Development Assistance (ODA) (net of debt cancellation, humanitarian operations, technical assistance and administrative costs), had declined. As for the Doha Development Round on trade negotiations, it had not addressed development issues by the time the talks collapsed. Furthermore, aid effectiveness remained a work in progress.
16. Responding to a question about emerging lenders such as the Gulf States, President Kikwete said those emerging States could play a very important role. Some developing countries had more capacity than others and therefore had a greater responsibility to help. Mr. Kaberuka added that Africa's infrastructure problem was so big that there was a place for everyone to assist – traditional donors, emerging donors and even the private sector. One of the challenges for Africa was to

reduce its role as an exporter of raw materials, and to add value to products from the continent and, this process required development of infrastructure. Dr. Kaberuka however cautioned African countries not to substitute new debt for old debt. Natural resources should be managed in a manner that would benefit Africa, he added.

V. CLOSING PLENARY

17. Expressing his view that this was a great day for Africa, **President Kikwete** welcomed the strong commitment to Africa's future, and the renewal of the international community's partnership for Africa's development. He noted that the fifteen Side Events that took place that day dealing with, *inter alia*: women, development, the food crisis, energy, and the challenge of governance, witnessed a remarkable assembly of expertise on Africa. He noted that in the past, there had been a lot of talk but, today he was encouraged by the tremendous resolve to move the agenda forward. He said participants could now testify that they were present when history was made, when the world awoke to its moral responsibility for Africa's development. The General Assembly President **H.E. Mr. Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann** presented the draft resolution entitled "Political Declaration on Africa's Development Needs" [A/63/RES/1](#), which was then adopted by the Assembly.
18. In his closing remarks, General Assembly President **D'Escoto Brockmann** said the hard part was keeping, and not breaking promises, and called on the Assembly to rise to the occasion and make history by ending poverty. He said the Political Declaration contained an urgent agenda for action, noting that the eradication of poverty in Africa is the greatest global challenge facing the world today. He further stressed that a strong Africa requires a stronger UN. Noting that the High-Level Meeting was the first in a series of three intergovernmental meetings in the year; it would be followed by the High-Level Event on the MDGs which would discuss poverty eradication, and the Doha Review Conference on Financing for Development in November 2008, which would discuss how to secure the financial resources and political resolve to fulfill the international community's commitments. He said it was essential for the General Assembly to ensure that commitments were turned into actions, noting that the Political Declaration sets the basis for such a mechanism.

VI. SIDE EVENTS

(i) **Crime as an Impediment to Security and Development in Africa**

Lead: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the International Peace Institute (IPI)

19. Local and transnational crime in Africa represented both the causes and the consequences of violence, corruption and poor governance. High levels of income inequality, a high share of youth in the population, high rates of urbanization, and low levels of criminal justice resources, firearms proliferation, wars and civil conflicts as well as weak controls over criminal activities, leave Africa particularly vulnerable to organized crime, drug trafficking, trafficking in human beings, money laundering and corruption. Organized crime, in a broad sense, inhibited development in Africa by destroying human and social capital, driving away business and investments, and undermining the ability of the State to promote development.

20. Speakers on the panel highlighted the fact that in a number of African countries, drugs, crime and corruption were undermining development efforts, and presented some solutions to these challenges. The need for a comprehensive approach to the problems of drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism as impediments to development in Africa was fully recognized in the African Union's 2007-2012 Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention. Panelists drew on their experiences at regional (African Union) and sub-regional levels (focusing on West Africa) to present examples of the negative impact of crime on development and initiatives to tackle the problem.

(ii) Youth Employment and Education

Lead: UNFPA, IOM, UN-OSAA, UN-DESA, ILO, UNV, UNESCO and UNOSDP

21. Youth development and employment was becoming an increasingly urgent issue across Africa as Governments recognized that African youth have the potential to contribute to peace, political stability and sustainable development in the continent. However, despite being the fastest growing labour force in the world, African youth were disproportionately marginalized. Youth in Sub-Saharan Africa faced a lack of opportunities in health, employment and education compounded by the consequences of armed conflict and often turned to migration as a coping mechanism. The lack of opportunities was particularly severe for young girls. Inclusion, enhanced coordination and more meaningful participation of youth in Africa's development were essential. **In this connection, the African Youth Charter should be ratified and implemented as the basis for advancing the rights of African youth to education, decent work, HIV prevention and sexual/reproductive health services, and their empowerment.**

22. It was critical to invest in an inter-sectoral approach to include education, health, employment and gender within the cultural context of Africa. Government policies should highlight training and inclusion of youth on health issues, including information on HIV/AIDS and the need for a gender perspective on youth issues and programmes. Decent work should be made available to African youth, to stem the "brain drain" of talented African youth to other destinations, and also to aid in the attainment of the MDGs. Joint actions amongst agencies, youth associations, the programmes of the UN, AU, and Regional Economic Commissions, other partner agencies and the national authorities and civil society were critical to achieving true partnership and addressing the major challenges of African youth. Education should be non-discriminatory, offer training on relevant employment skills as well as the ability to adapt to the changing economic environment.

23. Beyond government policies and partnership with UN and non-UN organizations, the onus also lay with African youth to be well-informed, to consolidate regional and sub-regional networks of youth associations and to engage with governmental and partner agencies on development issues. **Volunteering could be one of the main channels for youth participation and could be very successful in enhancing employability. To address volunteerism strategically in national policies and programmes, lessons learned from past experience should be kept in mind.**

(iii) The Social Development Challenge in Africa

Lead: UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNAIDS, IOM, UNHCR, UN-HABITAT, INTRACEN, UNECA, UN-OSAA and the African Union

24. **Better Health for Africa required multi-sectoral investments beyond health** to include other social determinants of health such as agriculture and food security, water and sanitation, education and decent employment. There was need for multi-sectoral partnerships for social development, especially health. **Africa Ministers of Health had developed the African Union Health Strategy and Plans (with emphasis on Maternal Health) and the Maputo Plan of Action to reduce maternal and child mortality and access to comprehensive reproductive health.** It was necessary to intensify implementation of comprehensive reproductive health programmes and institutionalize maternal morbidity and mortality audit. To accomplish this, there was currently a movement to improve Maternal Health beyond 2015.
25. There had been an improved response to HIV/AIDS (especially voluntary counseling and testing among young people in Malawi and South Africa, and prevention of mother-to-child transmission in antenatal clinics). **There was a need to ensure access to HIV treatment in the general population beyond the vulnerable or target groups,** because of the current high cost of treatment.
26. There was a need to **monitor and evaluate social development interventions in Africa to assess progress and successes,** for evidence-based advocacy and policy dialogue, and ensure knowledge-sharing and replication of successful programmes.

(iv) Micro-credit, Microfinance, Inclusive Finance: Building Success for Innovative Solutions for Poverty Eradication in Africa

Lead: United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), UN Advisors Group on Inclusive Finance Sectors and the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the UN

27. The panel discussion focused on the importance of a **strong financial sector in reducing poverty** and recommended innovative solutions to remove the obstacles preventing the poorest populations in Africa from access to financial services. There was a tremendous demand worldwide for financial services for the poor and it was hoped that by showcasing success stories—such as those in Africa—inclusive finance as a global development priority and an important tool for poverty alleviation, would be elevated to the next level. Only 4% of the sub-Saharan African population had bank accounts and only 1% of Africans had a loan or credit facility with a formal financing institution. Thus a significant number of people in Africa remain “un-banked” and did not have access to bank accounts and other financial services enjoyed by many people worldwide. The impact of such “financial exclusion” was very harmful; it implied that a significant segment of the population was being denied the allocation of resources and denied the ability to build capital assets and to generate income.
28. Given the current economic crisis impacting the commercial banking sector, the importance of creating **enabling environments** to address the challenges of building inclusive financial sectors was highlighted by the group. In this regard, the UN Advisors Group on Inclusive Financial Sectors has worked with governments, regulators, development partners, and private sector companies to identify the key issues limiting access to financial products and services and to outline concrete steps that can be taken to remove these constraints and embrace new opportunities that will ultimately result in increased access to financial products and services by all segments of the population.

29. The experiences of Equity Bank, a Kenyan microfinance institution that is leading the development of innovative products, were highlighted in detail. Within ten years, Equity Bank had become the home to more than 50% of all bank accounts in Kenya and had remarkable success in rolling out innovative savings and agricultural lending products.
30. For Africa, increasing access to financial products and services would be especially important to **revolutionize and create innovations in agricultural productivity**. Despite its huge potential, Africa suffered from low productivity in agricultural production. In an environment of rising food costs, increased access to financial services would help to allocate financial resources and could transform small-scale commercial farmers that lack the resources to increase agricultural production. Food security continued to be a major challenge in Africa, making it difficult for people to manage unexpected risks.
31. The significant role of **remittances** as one of the most important sources of development finance was also emphasized. International remittances, whereby migrants transfer funds to their home countries, constitute the second largest financial inflow to many developing countries, exceeding official development assistance. Many of these funds were going to poor people, who would otherwise be considered “unbankable”. The importance of remittances to a country’s economy could be demonstrated through the example of Ghana, where remittances exceeded the total value of exports and foreign aid. A better understanding was needed on how to leverage remittances so that people could utilize these funds for productive and useful purposes, such as payment of school fees.
32. Examples of **innovations in technology** that increase access to financial products and services were also presented. Many of these innovations were already facilitating the provision of financial services to difficult to reach clients by reducing costs, increasing efficiencies, and helping microfinance institutions achieve scale. Examples of innovations in technology that had lowered transaction costs and made it easier to reach the poor included the use of mobile phones to bank the poor (e.g. M-PESA partnerships with Vodafone, Faulu-Kenya and CBA in Kenya) and the use of ATMs and Point-of-Sale Networks that increase financial institution outreach without the costs of opening an expensive branch network (e.g. Uganda Microfinance Ltd).
33. The panel concluded with recommendations of the agenda forward by the development partners. It was argued that additional focus on the following issues would be needed:
- How the **private sector** could **support market infrastructure**, especially with respect to strengthening mobile banking networks, to solve the “last mile” problem.
 - Creative ways to carry forward **advocacy and policy dialogue**.
 - Innovative solutions to **build capacity** within institutions, such as through distance-learning courses.
 - Development of **new products**, such as remittances and micro-insurance, that serves the needs of poor and low-income people and micro and small entrepreneurs.
 - Usage of unique and creative **partnerships** as distribution channels to promote these new products.

(v) Accelerating Poverty Reduction and Economic Growth: Transforming African Countries into Tiger Economies *Lead: UNIDO, UNCTAD, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)*

34. The United Nation Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) hosted a side event focusing on how to accelerate economic growth and poverty reduction in Africa. The event was chaired by the Director-General of UNIDO, Mr. Kandeh Yumkella with the keynote address being delivered by the Deputy Secretary-General, Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro. In her statement, the DSG emphasized that poverty reduction in Africa should be at the top of the international community's agenda.
35. The side event included statements by Mr. Namanga Ngongi, the President of AGRA, Ms. Patricia Francis, the Executive Director of ITC, Mr. Stefano Manservigi, the Director-General for Development Cooperation in the European Commission, Mr. Charles Gore of UNCTAD and Cheick Sidi Diara, the Special Adviser on Africa and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. Examples from the experience of some of the Asian Tigers were highlighted, although several speakers emphasized that while Africa should learn from the experience of others, it must also follow its own path to development. The statements of the panelists were followed by a lively interactive session between the members of the panel and a high-level audience which included a number of Ministers and Ambassadors as well as members of the private sector, civil society and UN officials.

(vi) Transforming the Climate for Business to Accelerate Private Sector-Led Growth and progress towards the MDGs

Lead: UN Office for Partnerships, the LTB Foundation, Business Action for Africa, the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the UN

36. The event served as an opportunity for heads of African governments and business leaders to explore and discuss how the business and investment climate could be improved through effective public-private cooperation frameworks.
37. Against a backdrop of considerable instability in the global economy, Africa had been experiencing a period of sustained economic growth and robust investment flows. However, Amir Dossal, Executive Director, UN Office for Partnerships, noted that rising food and oil prices and instability in financial markets constituted a growing threat to this growth. Aid would not eradicate poverty from Africa and a vibrant private sector offered the most sustainable route out of poverty for many people. Africa needed a healthy and robust private sector to maintain productive economies and to generate greater levels of investment, trade and job creation.
38. There was a growing recognition of the need to create strong alliances through public private partnerships and increasing evidence of how these partnerships could deliver innovative solutions to Africa's development challenges, especially as Bert Koenders, Minister for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands, pointed out, when business treated the poor as valued customers and clients. Many innovative examples were cited through the meeting, ranging from improving access to capital and financial services to farmers to manufacturing mosquito nets.

39. Comments from speakers focused around five themes: **(i) Business has an important potential role to play in tackling poverty and accelerating progress towards the MDGs;** - **(ii) Getting the investment climate right** -significant increases in investment in Africa will only be achieved by improving the investment climate; **(iii) Important progress is being made as a result of concerted reforms and innovative problem solving approaches.** **(iv) Small-scale business and agriculture key priorities;** and **(v) Partnerships offer the best way to make progress** - Given the scale of the challenges, the need for public private partnership approaches was critical. The growing number and variety of these partnerships – in areas as diverse as governance reform, water sustainability, agricultural productivity and human development and healthcare - demonstrate that it is possible to deliver successful economic and development outcomes. The Link project with Google was cited as an initiative to connect and identify best efforts.

(vii) Launch of the African Atlas of our Changing Environment

Lead: UNEP

40. The UNEP Deputy Executive Director introduced the Atlas, noting that the publication underlined how development choices, population growth, climate change and, in some cases, violent conflicts were shaping and impacting the natural and nature-based assets of the region. The event served to increase awareness of the urgent environmental issues facing the continent, as highlighted in the Atlas. It showcased visual information to support deliberations during High-Level Meeting, particularly countries' progress on MDG7. It provided an opportunity to receive feedback on how useful the Atlas and satellite based data could be in supporting national level planning processes and recommendations on how best UNEP could strategically engage with national and UN system partners. **The United States Geological Survey Director took the opportunity to announce that his organization was releasing all Landsat data on Africa for free and indicated that UNEP is expected to be the major beneficiary.**

41. *Africa: Atlas of Our Changing Environment* was produced by UNEP in cooperation with a number of organizations in Africa and the US and was released at the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) meeting in Johannesburg in June 2008. The Atlas leverages scientific and technological assets of government agencies, academic institutions and private sector to promote evidence based policies and priority setting in countries. It highlights important environmental issues for all African countries and provides evidence of local changes like deforestation, shrinking of lakes, urban growth using current and historical satellite data. There are more than 316 satellite images, 319 ground photographs and 151 maps, along with informative graphs and charts for every country in Africa.

(viii) The MDG Africa Steering Group and the Gleneagles Scenario Approach to Scaling Up ODA

Lead: UNDP/MDG with the Republic of Bénin, the Republic of Rwanda, European Commission, International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Africa Progress Panel, the Earth Institute and OXFAM

42. The side event focused on: (i) observation that incomplete fulfillment of donor commitments to scale up ODA has become a limiting constraint on the achievement of the MDGs in Africa; and (ii)

the usefulness of the MDG Africa Steering Group's Gleneagles Scenario as a tool for unlocking scaled-up ODA.

43. In 2005, the G8 committed at its Gleneagles Summit to more than double Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Africa with an additional US\$25 billion per annum (in 2004 real terms) by 2010. At end-2007, OECD/DAC figures indicated that only about one-third of this increase in ODA had been programmed despite the reaffirmation of this commitment at the 2008 G8 Hokkaido Summit. ODA remained unpredictable from year to year seriously impeding the multi-year planning needed to build the health, education and social systems necessary to achieve the MDGs. In the context of Africa's strong macroeconomic fundamentals, including substantial mobilization of domestic resources; improved governance; well-designed and consultative Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs); and an international consensus behind key priorities for poverty reduction, the lack of adequate external financing appeared to be the key remaining constraint on the achievement of the MDGs in Africa—a constraint that must be removed.
44. **Panelists in the side event were unanimous in their call for donors to meet their ODA commitments to Africa and to implement the recommendations of the MDG Africa Steering Group.** Panelists noted that these commitments were affordable compared with the US\$1.2 trillion the world spent on its militaries in 2006; the estimated US\$267 billion spent by OECD countries on agricultural subsidies in 2007; and the more than US\$33 billion paid in bonuses (i.e., exclusive of salaries) on Wall Street in the year 2007. Panelists also emphasized that ODA commitments should be treated as binding contracts since the unpredictable delivery of aid created major problems for African Governments. Panelists called for the Gleneagles Scenarios to be extended to any country that requested this work. They also underscored that the MDG Africa Steering Group's recommendations provided a practical, evidence-based plan for the use of this scaled up ODA.

(ix) Governance Challenge in Africa

Lead: UN-OSAA, UNU, UN-HABITAT, IPU, UNODC, UNIFEM

45. The Co-Chair, Mrs Julia Joiner, Commissioner for Political Affairs, African Union Commission, opened the meeting by observing that governance challenges were not unique to Africa and this compelled us to recognise that conceptions and practices of governance were evolving in many different ways across the globe. Cheick Diarra the Special Advisor on Africa delivered the opening statement reiterating the fact that good governance and development reinforced each other and good governance was therefore essential for durable peace and sustainable development, which were among the critical challenges facing many countries in the African continent. Dr. Coicaud mentioned that Africa remained the focus for United Nations University's research and capacity building efforts
46. A keynote address on “**Governance and Leadership**” in Africa by Dr. Jonah presented a comparison between 19th century European theories on the evolution of governance; he highlighted the plight of Africa which was going through similar processes of evolution from traditional society to a rational modern society.
47. Presentation and discussion on “**Equality, Opportunity and the Rule of Law-Access to Justice, Human Rights and the Right to Development**” observed that at independence almost all the

African countries had written constitutions which embodied a Bill of Rights and a multi-party democracy. The first victim of past independence constitutions was democracy itself and the rights of the people.

48. The panelists also highlighted the fact that human rights were a bastion of any constitutional order and the heart of any democratic society. Their protection and promotion in a society was what propelled a society to have a harmonious development. These sentiments were also expressed in the Constitutive Act of the African Union. All African countries did have in their constitutions provisions on fundamental freedom and rights.
49. The “**Africa Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)**” presentation emphasised that implementation had been mixed and recognised that the challenges were more complex and required considerable levels of patience and perseverance. It was observed by the panellists that even though they were skeptical on the outcome of the process initially, they recognized the overall success of the initiative and concluded that after all, a political dialogue between governments and their people was possible in Africa. Setbacks related to the process were identified which included, the slow pace of the whole process mainly due to inadequate capacities. The governance and democracy journey in Africa required innovation in approach, in this context it is imperative to forge more dialogue in order for the process to move forward. While some solutions have been initiated in Africa, like the Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance and the APRM process, it was evident that neither Africa nor its global partners necessarily have all of the answers.

(x) A Response to the World Food Crisis: Smallholder Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Development in Africa

Lead: FAO, IFAD, WFP, the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Malawi to the UN, UNDP, Earth Institute at Columbia University, UN-NGLS, UNAIDS, the World Bank, AGRA

Conclusions, Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

50. The side event resulted in the following key recommendations and conclusions:
- Addressing the world food crisis required a global and coordinated response that combined immediate- and short-term measures as well as longer-term solutions;
 - High agricultural commodity prices gravely affected poor people who were often net buyers of food while also offering an opportunity to re-launch efforts to increase agricultural production and productivity;
 - Smallholder farmers, who make up the majority of agricultural producers in Africa, needed to be at the center of any initiatives to enhance agricultural production;
 - The competitiveness of the agricultural sector needed to be improved by investing in smallholder farms; strengthening the capacity of producers and their organizations to participate in agricultural development programmes, especially by increasing the participation of women; and accelerating the process of regional integration;
 - Action plans for increased food production required the introduction of Green Revolution technologies to enhance seed and fertilizer inputs, construct watering systems, improve infrastructure and market access, and provide smallholder farmers with access to credit. Because smallholder farmers could not afford these technologies in many cases, domestic and external support would be required for their provision;

- Localized successes needed to be replicated broadly to strengthen the agricultural sector as a whole across all regions in Africa;
- Significantly more public resources were needed to support the agriculture, food and nutrition sectors in light of the fact that agriculture's current share of total ODA stood at only 4 percent compared to 1980 when it stood at 20 percent;
- Collaborations with international institutions and donor countries for funding were necessary, but African countries may also search for new ways to build on the already substantial efforts they had made to mobilize internal resources;
- The private sector had also an important role to play in finding solutions to Africa's food needs;
- Governments, donors and international institutions also needed to work with new actors such as AGRA, foundations and the private sector to mobilize financial and technical support;
- Strategic partnerships with farmers' organizations needed to be developed to work with national authorities in the reprioritization of resource allocation and monitoring and evaluation of government programs; and
- Agreement on the need in 2010 for a UN summit to review the Secretary-General's next comprehensive report on progress toward the MDGs.

(xi) Africa's Vulnerability: the Energy Crisis, Climate Change and Environment

Lead: ECA, UNIDO, UNEP, FAO and UNHCR

51. Although Africa contributed very little to global emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG), climate change had the negative effects of constraining agricultural production and worsening food insecurity, increasing water stress and, through progressive reduction of water flows and depletion of biomass resources, increasing energy constraints. Fossil fuel emissions being a major cause of climate change, addressing Africa's long-term energy and development should not proceed from the same unsustainable fossil-based energy regimes that powered the economic growth of today's industrialized nations. Against this background, the meeting shed light on the current acute energy crisis in Africa while offering a discussion on its implications for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. In this context, the meeting drew attention to the complex nexus of interdependent process that links the energy challenges arising from climate change to those of water and food security.
52. The discussion highlighted the need for improved assessment of future energy needs and increased access to funding and investments in order to address the scale of current challenges. Good policy framework and sound power sector reform were revealed as requirements for promoting energy activities and their linkage to the productive sectors. Good policy frameworks, governance mechanisms to ensure compliance and sharing solutions with local communities would also be required. To support regional efforts at addressing energy and its climate change challenges in Africa, ECA announced a comprehensive 10 year comprehensive Climate Information for Development Africa (ClimDev-Africa) Programme, being developed in partnership with the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS).
53. Within the framework of ClimDev-Africa, ECA also announced the establishment of an African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) to assist its Member States to mainstream climate change concerns into their policy framework.

(xii) Migration and Sustainable Development in Africa

Lead: IOM, ECA, UNDP, UNHCR

54. More than a third of the world's refugees and half of the world's Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), constituting eleven million people, are to be found in Africa. With seventeen African states having over 50,000 refugees, eight out of twenty countries with the highest ratio of refugees to local people were in Africa. Most of the recorded migration in Africa occurred within the region, out of a total of 14.5 million migrants originating in sub-Saharan Africa, 10 million migrants (or 69%) moved within the region. Refugees and IDPs had routinely been the domain of the humanitarian community, leaving them outside of any development plans. The relationship between displacement and the right to development had to be fully recognized, realizing that the MDGs could not be achieved without taking into consideration refugees and IDPs, and promote their safety and dignity.

Conclusions, Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

55. International migration or displacement may have negative consequences for the countries concerned, but as an important resource, the positive outcomes of such movements could be exploited to bring long term benefits for Africa. In searching for innovative ways to overcome the many challenges faced in sustainable development in Africa, it was important to explore the potential contribution of those who migrate or who are displaced, to the development of their countries of origin and their countries of destination. It was also a challenge to harness the positive contribution of refugees and internally displaced persons so that their integration or reintegration could help contribute to sustainable development in Africa. Inequitable distribution of arable land and property needed to be addressed in order to promote sustainable development and to avoid violent conflict. This would be particularly necessary in post-conflict situations to ease existing tensions and focus efforts on poverty eradication

(xiii) Strengthening African Private Sector Competitiveness in a Global Context

Lead: International Trade Centre (ITC), the World Bank and the Global Compact

Summary Discussions

56. The three co-sponsors of the event (ITC, WB and GC) discussed the challenges in both public and private spheres. For Governments, points raised touched upon: (a) introducing reforms on the regulatory front, (b) engaging the private sector through consultative mechanisms, and (c) negotiating with developed government counterparts to achieve an enabling international trade regime. For the private sector, the agencies discussed how to develop linkages with multinational and large domestic firms, so as to nurture smaller enterprises, the importance of setting standards to achieve sustainability, with a sharp focus on corporate governance and how to engage in skill-building activities, especially to assist smaller and micro enterprises, improve vocational knowledge and skill levels. The agenda for developing the private sector in Africa was viewed from the perspective of two key dimensions: building entrepreneurship and achieving competitiveness. Developing the private sector involved, on the one hand, building the necessary pillars of entrepreneurship which include, principally, a level playing field, access to financing and access to

skills and knowledge, these, in turn, rest on a foundation of additional prerequisites, such as the rule of law, physical and social infrastructure and a sound macro environment.

57. Conclusions, Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

- Recommendations on how the donor community and international organisations (including trade related technical assistance agencies) could collaborate better with each other and with governments to more effectively assist African private sector enterprises to enhance competitiveness and growth;
- Recommendations on how to encourage the promotion of partnerships between the public and the private sector (i.e., PPPs);
- Signing of partnership between ITC and Regional Economic Communities; and
- The event's conclusions and recommendations would be integrated in the ongoing ITC programmes, including the newly established Programme for Building African Capacity for Trade (PACT II). PACT II is a five-year, \$20 million joint programme of Canada, ITC and the three RECs to boost intra-regional trade in Africa, designed to enhance the capacity of the concerned RECs to champion trade development. It supports regional networks for policy dialogue, builds sector-specific export competitiveness including market linkages, and promotes the role of women entrepreneurs.

(xiv) Africa Women's Forum

Lead: UNIFEM, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNAIDS, UNV, ECA, ITC, UNCTAD/WTO, OSAA

58. All the distinguished panelists unanimously stressed the importance for Governments to open up the ***space for political engagement of women*** that would allow for the expression of their voices and leadership in the formulation of policy and programmes at national and regional levels.

Conclusions, Recommendations and Follow-up Actions

59. To accelerate the achievement of MDGs in Africa, panelists proposed nine actionable recommendations for African Governments, including one for the international community as whole:
- Strengthen commitments to implement gender equality and women's empowerment through strengthening mandates, incentives and resources for delivering on the commitments to women's rights;
 - Increase resources for gender equality outcomes, especially in the framework of the modalities of financing development in Africa; allocate significant resources to strengthen African Women's organizations;
 - Take concrete measures to enhance women's political participation and increase their transformative leadership in achieving sustainable development and the MDGs. This would ensure Government accountability to women's needs;
 - Ensure that Direct Budget Support adequately addresses gender equality outcomes by using gender responsive budgeting to allocate and monitor resources;

- Leverage girls' education as a transformative force for addressing the complex barriers to women's empowerment, and widen the scope of MDG 2 to ensure quality, equity, inclusion, and transition to higher levels of education. It is critical to guarantee gender parity in enrollment, retention and successful completion at all levels, and women and girls' access to technical, vocational and literacy training;
- Guarantee women's equal right to life and good health through ensuring universal access to reproductive health, accelerating implementation of existing policies and legislation that reduce women and girls' greater vulnerability to HIV and AIDS, and repealing discriminatory HIV/Aids laws;
- Guarantee women's access to and control over productive assets such as land, adopt specific legislation for protecting women's inheritance rights to land and land-based resources, and promote women's entrepreneurship;
- Enable women in armed conflict and post-conflict societies to be engaged in peace-processes and reconstruction efforts as effective change agents in the development process in line with UN Security Council Resolution 1325; and
- Governments, the United Nations, civil society organizations and the private sector should make concerted efforts to build on and accelerate progress in advancing gender in all the MDGs, and document lessons learnt through better reporting on implementation of gender related conventions. In this regard, civil society organizations and women's networks should be strengthened to hold Governments accountable and make meaningful contribution to key policy arenas.

(xv) Confronting the Disease of Poverty to meet the MDGs: “Digital Health and African Development” Interactive Roundtable

Lead: UN Office for Partnerships, UN “Health 8” partners, the Earth Institute at Columbia University, Commonwealth Business Council, African Business Roundtable, International Business Leaders Forum, Business Action for Africa, Oxford Health Alliance, the Rockefeller Foundation

60. This interactive roundtable dialogue was a unique high-level gathering of global health leaders to forge a consensus and strategic framework on the use of digital technology in scaling up the achievement of the health-related MDGs to meet Africa's development needs. The dialogue offered one of the first opportunities to gather leaders from the international computing technology and pharmaceutical communities to advance the global partnership for development within MDG 8 to forge a common language and framework for concrete action on the ground.
61. The principal commitments from the meeting were for the launch of a “Digital Health Initiative” (DHI) comprising a multi-stakeholder partnership of private sector partners in media, telecom, health technology and pharmaceutical companies for joint collaboration with civil society, governments and international organizations. A “Global Convention” on digital health would take place within two years involving all relevant stakeholders to meet the discovery, development and delivery requirements of the MDGs for digital health for development, to achieve the health related MDGs by 2015.

Annex:

New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support: High-level meeting on the theme "Africa's development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward" [57 (a)] 22 September 2008

3rd Plenary Meeting – List of Speakers for the Opening Plenary (9-10 am)

- 1) President of the General Assembly
- 2) Secretary-General
- 3) H.E. Mr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania
- 4) H.E. Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy, President of France
- 5) H.E. Ms. Heidemarie Wiecezorek-Zeul, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany and Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Financing for Development Conference
- 6) H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan
- 7) Representative of (Antigua and Barbuda) (on behalf of G77 and China)
- 8) H.E. Mr. José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission
- 9) H.E. Mr. Jean Ping, Chairman of the African Union Commission and former President of the General Assembly

List of Speakers for the Round Tables (2 in the morning 10 am-1 pm and 2 in the afternoon (3-6 pm))

Heads of State: 28

Heads of Government: 7

Vice-Presidents: 2

Deputy Prime Ministers: 3

Ministers: 65

Deputy Foreign Ministers: 8

Chairmen of the Delegations: 29

Observer: 1

Heads of State: 28

1. Argentina
2. Austria
3. Benin
4. Bosnia and Herzegovina
5. Brazil
6. Burkina Faso
7. Cape Verde
8. Central African Republic
9. Cyprus
10. Finland
11. Ghana
12. Iran (Islamic Rep of)
13. Latvia

14. Madagascar
15. Malawi
16. Mozambique
17. Namibia
18. Rwanda
19. Sao Tome and Principe
20. Senegal
21. Sierra Leone
22. Slovenia
23. Sudan
24. Swaziland
25. Switzerland
26. Turkey
27. Uganda
28. Zimbabwe

Heads of Government: 7

1. Bangladesh
2. Croatia
3. Dominica
4. Guinea

5. Morocco
6. Netherlands
7. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Vice-President: 2

1. Cuba
2. Gabon

Deputy Prime Ministers: 3

1. Bulgaria
2. Jamaica
3. Luxembourg

Ministers: 65

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Algeria | 33. Ireland |
| 2. Angola | 34. Jamaica |
| 3. Australia | 35. Japan |
| 4. Bahrain | 36. Jordan |
| 5. Barbados | 37. Kenya |
| 6. Belgium | 38. Lebanon |
| 7. Bosnia and Herzegovina | 39. Lesotho |
| 8. Burundi | 40. Mali |
| 9. Cameroon | 41. Mauritania |
| 10. Cape Verde | 42. Monaco |
| 11. Chile | 43. Myanmar |
| 12. China | 44. Nigeria |
| 13. Comoros | 45. Norway |
| 14. Congo | 46. Oman |
| 15. Czech Republic | 47. Philippines |
| 16. Denmark | 48. Portugal |
| 17. Egypt | 49. Qatar |
| 18. Estonia | 50. Republic of Korea |
| 19. Ethiopia | 51. Rwanda |
| 20. Finland | 52. San Marino |
| 21. France | 53. Singapore |
| 22. Gambia | 54. Slovakia |
| 23. Germany | 55. Somalia |
| 24. Ghana | 56. South Africa |
| 25. Greece | 57. Sudan |
| 26. Guatemala | 58. Sweden |
| 27. Guinea-Bissau | 59. Togo |
| 28. Guyana | 60. Tunisia |
| 29. Hungary | 61. United Kingdom |
| 30. Iceland | 62. United Republic of Tanzania |
| 31. India | 63. United States |
| 32. Indonesia | 64. Zambia |
| | 65. Zimbabwe |

Deputy Foreign Ministers: 8

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Columbia | 2. Pakistan |
| 2. Egypt | 3. Poland |
| 1. Israel | 6. Russian Federation |
| 3. Italy | 7. Spain |
| 4. Lithuania | 8. Ukraine |
| 5. Pakistan | |

Chairmen of the Delegations: 30

1. Andorra
2. Antigua and Barbuda
3. Belarus
4. Botswana
5. Cambodia
6. Canada
7. Côte d'Ivoire
8. Democratic Republic of the Congo
9. Dominican Republic
10. El Salvador
11. Israel
12. Kazakhstan
13. Kuwait
14. Liberia
15. Libya
16. Liechtenstein
17. Maldives
18. Malta
19. Moldova
20. New Zealand
21. Nicaragua
22. Niger
23. Saudi Arabia
24. Seychelles
25. Switzerland
26. Syrian Arab Republic
27. Thailand
28. United Arab Emirates
29. Venezuela
30. Viet Nam

Observers:

1. Holy See

Round table 1 (10am-1pm – TRI), co-chaired by H.E. Mr. John Agyekum Kufour, President of the Republic of Ghana and H.E. Mr. Haris Silajdžić, Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

H.E. Mr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, President of the Republic of Namibia
H.E. Mr. Abdullah Gül, President of the Republic of Turkey
H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal
H.E. Mr. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda
H.E. Mr. Fradique Bandeira Melo de Menezes, President of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe
H.E. Mr. Danilo Türk, President of the Republic of Slovenia
H.E. Mr. Ernest Bai Koroma, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone
H.E. Mr. Yoshiro Mori, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan
H.E. Mr. Didjob Divungi di Ndinge, Vice President of the Gabonese Republic
H.E. Mr. José Ramón Machado Ventura, First Vice-President of the Council of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba
H.E. Mr. Ivo Sanader, Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia
H.E. Mr. Abbas El Fassi, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Morocco
Mr. Tim Costello, President and Chief Executive Officer of World Vision International
H.E. Mr. Ján Kubiš, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovakia
H.E. Ms. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Minister for Foreign Affairs of South Africa
H.E. Lord Mark Malloch-Brown, Minister of State for Africa, Asia and United Nations Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
H.E. Mr. Nyan Win, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Myanmar
H.E. Mr. Jean Asselborn, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration of Luxembourg
H.E. Mr. Asim Hussain, Federal Minister of Pakistan
H.E. Ms. Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany
H.E. Mr. Hassan Wirajuda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia
H.E. Mr. Fidil Al-Tigani, Minister of International Cooperation of the Sudan
H.E. Ms. Ulla Toornaes, Minister for Development Cooperation of Denmark
H.E. Mr. Alexander Yakovenko, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation
H.E. Ms. Adriana Mejía, Deputy Minister of Multilateral Affairs of Colombia
H.E. Mr. Ángel Lossada, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain
H.E. Mr. Mohamed Elorabi, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt
Mr. Hinomasa Yonekura, President of the Sumitomo Chemical.

Concluding remarks by Co-Chairs, H.E. Mr. Haris Silajdžić, Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina and H.E. Mr. John Agyekum Kufour, President of the Republic of Ghana.

Round table 2 (10am-1pm – ECOSOC), co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and H.E. Ms. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland

H.E. Mr. Armando Emílio Guebuza, President of the Republic of Mozambique
 His Majesty King Mswati III, Head of State of the Kingdom of Swaziland
 H.E. Mr. Marc Ravalomanana, President of the Republic of Madagascar
 H.E. Mr. Ahmed Tidiane Souaré, Prime Minister of the Republic of Guinea
 H.E. Mr. Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
 H.E. Mr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, Chief Adviser of the Caretaker Government of the People's
 Republic of Bangladesh
 H.E. Ms. Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of State of the United States of America
 H.E. Mr. Charles Michel, Minister of Development Cooperation of Belgium
 H.E. Mr. Ojo Maduekwe, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria
 Representatives of the Economic Commission for Africa and the observer of the
 European Community
 H.E. Mr. Valdis Zatlers, President of the Republic of Latvia
 H.E. Mr. Kenneth Baugh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs
 of Jamaica
 H.E. Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of China
 H.E. Ms. Kinga Göncz, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Hungary
 H.E. Mr. Ato Newaye Gebreab, Minister, Chief Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister
 of Ethiopia
 H.E. Mr. Fawzi Salloukh, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigrants of Lebanon
 H.E. Mr. Peter Power, Minister of State, Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland
 H.E. Mr. Koffi Essaw, Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional
 Integration of Togo
 H.E. Mrs. Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade
 of Iceland
 H.E. Mr. João Bernardo de Miranda, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Angola
 H.E. Mr. Henri Eyebe Ayissi, Minister of External Relations of Cameroon
 H.E. Mr. Ivailo Kalfin, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs
 of Bulgaria
 H.E. Mr. Simbarashe Simbaneduku Mumbengegwi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of
 Zimbabwe.
 Representatives of the Pan-African Parliament, Map International and
 the Food and Agriculture Organization
 Concluding remarks by Co-chair, H.E. Ms. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland.

Round table 3 1 (3-6pm – TRI), co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Abdulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal and H.E. Mr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

H.E. Mr. François Bozizé, President of the Central African Republic
 H.E. Mr. Boni Yayi, President of the Republic of Benin
 H.E. Mr. Jan Peter Balkenende, Prime Minister and Minister for General Affairs
 of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
 H.E. Mr. Anand Sharma, Minister of State for External Affairs of India
 H.E. Mr. Alain Joyandet, Minister of Cooperation and La Francophonie of France
 H.E. Hon. Bradford Machila, Minister of Lands of Zambia
 H.E. Mr. Erik Solheim, Minister of the Environment and International Development
 of Norway
 H.E. Mr. Alejandro Foxley Rioseco, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile
 H.E. Ms. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guyana
 H.E. Mr. Alberto Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines
 H.E. Mr. Vincenzo Scotti, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy

H.E. Mr. Alexandre Fasel, Director of the UN Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland

H.E. Mr. Franck Biancheri, Government Counsellor for External Relations and for International Economic and Financial Affairs of Monaco

Mr. Abdulrahman Almofadhi, Saudi Fund for Development

Representatives of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Antigua and Barbuda, Viet Nam and Nicaragua.

Statement also by the Co-Chair, H.E. Mr. Abdulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal.

Statements by the observer of the Observer State of the Holy See, the observers of the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies the representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs as well as, by representatives of World Vision and the African Monitor, Business Action for Africa and Regenesys.

Concluding remarks by Co-Chair, H.E. Mr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Round table 4 (3-6pm – ECOSOC), co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires, President of the Republic of Cape Verde

H.E. Mr. Luiz Inácio Lula Da Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

H.E. Mr. Heinz Fischer, President of the Republic of Austria

H.E. Mr. Yu Myung-hwan, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea

H.E. Mr. Stephen Smith, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia

H.E. Mr. Wycliffe Oparanya, Minister for Planning, National Development Vision 2030 of Kenya

H.E. Mr. Basile Ikouebe, Minister for Foreign Affairs and La Francophonie of the Congo

Representative of Thailand

H.E. Mr. Omar A. Touray, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Gambia

H.E. Mr. Carl Bildt, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden

H.E. Mr. Urmas Paet, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Estonia

Representatives of Belarus, Botswana and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

H.E. Mr. Alexander Horin, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

Representative of Liberia

H.E. Mr. Khaled Muhammad Al-Attiya, Minister of State for International Cooperation of Qatar

H.E. Ms. Antoinette Batumubwira, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Burundi

Representatives of Kuwait and Israel.

Representatives of the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, Pan African Women's Organization and the Development Bank for Southern Africa.

Concluding remarks by Co-chair, H.E. Mr. Pedro Vernon Rodrigues Pires, President of the Republic of Cape Verde.

4th plenary meeting (6.15 – 6.40 pm – GA Hall)

The General Assembly adopted draft resolution [A/63/L.1](#) (resolution 63/1).

H.E. Mr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairman
of the African Union
PGA

The General Assembly has thus concluded the High-level Meeting on the theme “Africa’s development needs: state of implementation of various commitments, challenges and the way forward”.

The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 57.