



High-level Event on the Millennium Development Goals, United Nations Headquarters, New York, 25 September 2008

OVERVIEW

The Millennium Development Goals

In September of the year 2000, leaders of 189 countries met at the United Nations in New York and endorsed the Millennium Declaration, a commitment to work together to build a safer, more prosperous and equitable world. The Declaration was translated into a roadmap setting out eight time-bound and measurable goals to be reached by 2015, known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), namely:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

- » Reduce by half the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day
- » Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people
- » Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

2. Achieve universal primary education

» Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling

3. Promote gender equality and empower women

» Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

4. Reduce child mortality

» Reduce by two thirds the mortality of children under five

5. Improve maternal health

- » Reduce maternal mortality by three quarters
- » Achieve universal access to reproductive health

6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

- » Halt and reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS
- » Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it
- » Halt and reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

7. Ensure environmental sustainability

- » Integrate principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse the loss of environmental resources
- » Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss
- » Halve the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
- » Improve the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020

8. Develop a global partnership for development

- » Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system
- » Address special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing States
- » Deal comprehensively with developing countries' debt
- » In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries
- » In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies

For more information, please visit: www.un.org/millenniumgoals