



Renowned African musicians join the UN in a song to end poverty by 2015

***8 Goals for Africa* music video to be screened across South Africa during World Cup**

Johannesburg, South Africa, 14 May 2010 – Helen Clark, the chair of the UN Development Group which brings together all UN agencies working in development, today launched *8 Goals for Africa*, a campaign song by eight of Africa's best known musicians, calling for commitment to achieve the Millennium Development Goals - a set of eight internationally-agreed goals designed to reduce poverty, hunger, disease, and maternal and child deaths by 2015.

8 Goals for Africa features Yvonne Chaka Chaka from South Africa, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador Angelique Kidjo from Benin, Oliver Mtukudzi from Zimbabwe, Eric Wainaina from Kenya, Baaba Maal from Senegal, and the Soweto Gospel Choir from South Africa. World renowned jazz musicians Hugh Masekela and Jimmy Dlodlu from South Africa are instrumentalists on the track, produced by Arthur Baker from the United States of America.

“There can be no spectators in the fight against poverty,” said Helen Clark at the launch. “Everyone has a role to play in scoring the 8 Millennium Development Goals, which if reached would improve the quality of life for many hundreds of millions of people across developing countries.”

8 Goals for Africa is also recorded as a music video, which will be screened throughout the World Cup, across all the fan parks and public viewing areas in South Africa.

Music composer Jimmy Dlodlu added: “I was inspired by this initiative. We want to help promote the Millennium Development Goals and I am optimistic that the song will convey a message of peace, hope and promise of a better future,” said Dlodlu, who attended the launch along with Masekela and Chaka Chaka.

8 Goals for Africa was composed by Jimmy Dlodlu and the lyrics written by Eric Wainaina, and is copyrighted to the United Nations. The song and all related materials, including the music video, ring tone, logo and wallpaper, will be available for free download after the media launch at www.8goalsforafrica.org, from Friday 14 May 2010 at 2.00 PM local/12 Noon GMT. The music video of the song will also be available on YouTube and on Vimeo.com.

Broadcast quality of both the song and video will be available at: www.undp.org/broadcast

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For more information on the Millennium Development Goals visit: www.un.org/millenniumgoals/