



21 April 2010

Excellency,

We are writing to you in connection with the next General Assembly informal meeting on the outcome of the 2010 MDG High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly (20-22 September 2010), which is scheduled for Thursday, 29 April 2010 from 3-6 p.m. in conference room 4 in the North Lawn Building.

As you are aware, we have had a series of very useful General Assembly interactive sessions involving the UN system, the private sector and foundations, academia and civil society. These sessions were enriching and highlighted the strong interests in the MDG Summit by all stakeholders. We now need to get into the core area of our responsibility as co-facilitators which is to facilitate the adoption of a concise action-oriented outcome document. We are very heartened and encouraged by the process thus far and the various informal contacts we have had with individuals and organizations which are engaged in the preparations of the Summit. These informal contacts suggest to us that there is a shared vision among all stakeholders that we need to ensure that the summit becomes a turning point in MDG achievement and brings us back on track to meet the MDGs by our commonly agreed deadline of 2015.

We also have the report of the Secretary-General (A/64/665) 'Keeping the Promise: A forward looking review to promote an agreed action agenda to achieve the MDGs by 2015'. The rich suggestions contained in the report and the positive feedback of Member States to the report at its launch on 16 March 2010 by the Secretary-General offer great potential for our future work. As we progress on the path of discussing the Summit outcome, we will also receive several other reports, not only those which have been mandated in the General Assembly resolution 64/184, but also reports which have been prepared by UN entities as well as others with suggestions on how we can imbue the

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outcome document with actionable proposals. The informal interactive hearings with non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, scheduled for 14-15 June 2010, will also be an important part of the preparatory process for the High-level Plenary Meeting.

Through these various inputs into our preparatory process, it is very clear to us that first and foremost, Member States and other stakeholders would like to see a clearly defined action agenda for the poor and most vulnerable, which will make a significant difference in their lives as we meet the targets of the MDGs by 2015. Many Member States have emphasized the need to focus on distinct and specific actions which are targeted and which will lead to monitorable progress in the MDGs everywhere. We have also heard repeatedly the opportunity that the High-level Plenary Meeting in September 2010 offers in re-energizing the political commitment and spurring collective actions. We have been reminded of the deep interconnectedness of the MDGs and the need to make simultaneous progress across the board.

The preliminary information before us points to a mixed report card for progress since the Millennium Declaration. It is quite clear to us that while there are several success stories which suggest that we can still achieve the MDGs by the agreed 2015 target date, the various crises that have visited us over the past few years, the challenges of climate change and other emerging challenges are setting current efforts back. It seems to us that there is a strong sentiment for taking very urgent action for the poorest and the most vulnerable, no matter where they live. There is also a need to meet special needs of conflict and post-conflict countries and those who are recovering from natural disasters.

Our interactions with various stakeholders have helped us tease out the best practices and the lessons learnt, not only in national policy but also in strengthening international cooperation for development. All our interlocutors have so far emphasized the need to strengthen partnership and to build on the success stories not only relating to policies, but also relating to institutional reform and financial support. It is our hope that we will be able in the summit outcome to bring many of these elements together in a way which makes a rousing appeal to deliver on our promise to the poor and will guarantee and protect the gains appropriately.

It is with these thoughts that we write to you to suggest that the meeting on 29 April 2010 will be an opportunity for all of us to reflect on what we envisage for the concise action-oriented outcome as set out in General resolution 64/184. To help guide the discussions in our next meeting, we would suggest that delegations focus their interventions in responding to the following questions:

1. What should be the structure of the outcome document?
2. What should be the overall message of the outcome document in terms of the progress made to date as well as major remaining challenges and obstacles?

3. How should we define the action agenda to achieve the MDGs by 2015 and should this be structured around the eight MDGs?
4. How will we define the clear and targeted interventions which we hope will make a change in the current trajectory of achievements?
5. How should we reflect the need to transform or adjust policies, institutions and financial support in order to deliver on the promise of 2015?

We would like to propose that once we have your views on these basic issues, we will propose a draft structure of the outcome document drawing on your comments and on the findings of the report of the Secretary-General for the High-Level Plenary Meeting. Following the circulation of the draft structure, we would value your views on this proposal and get from you more details on the elements that you would like to see under the broad structure headings of the outcome document. On the basis of this preliminary work, we would then start an earnest process of presenting a full fledged draft for your consideration and establish a work plan for consultations on the document, taking into account the large number of other negotiating processes including UN system-wide coherence, the work of the ad hoc open-ended working group to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, and the upcoming 2010 ECOSOC substantive session.

We look forward to your effective participation on this very important task that lies in front of us.

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



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