



THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

August 30, 2005

Dear Colleague:

The decisions our leaders make on development issues at the High-Level Event (HLE) have the potential to make a positive difference in the lives of millions of people throughout the world. Our nations share a commitment to fight poverty, hunger and disease--a commitment reflected in the development goals spelled out in the Millennium Declaration--and a determination that all people should have the opportunity to live healthy, productive lives. In Monterrey, Mexico in 2002, we all made commitments to fight poverty through development. We agreed that we had to change the models of the past, which focused primarily on resource transfers, to solutions premised on the proven methods of good governance, sound policies, the rule of law, and mobilization of both public and private resources.

The process we know as globalization has created opportunities for every country to participate in a worldwide process of trade and investment. Our job at the HLE is to identify ways to help developing countries, and especially the poorest among them, to integrate more fully into this worldwide process.

We need to look at what has worked in various countries in promoting progress towards achievement of our development goals, and focus our attention on the strategies that have the most promise for the most people. We also need to take an honest and urgent look at those places where progress has been insufficient.

We believe that an outcome document that promotes concerted action in fulfillment of the agreed development goals should be built on three elements.

First, it is essential for the outcome document to start by acknowledging efforts and achievements since the Millennium Summit and the Monterrey Conference.

Three quarters of the population of developing countries are on track to meet the 2015 targets set in the Millennium Declaration. There is broad commitment to finish an ambitious Doha Round. We have seen large increases in development assistance and new initiatives to fight infectious diseases. Many developing countries are beginning to tackle problems of governance at the national level. The critical role of the private sector and private financial flows as necessary ingredients of development is increasingly appreciated.

A global partnership for development is a reality. For our part, the United States has nearly doubled Official Development Assistance (ODA) since the adoption of the

Millennium Declaration, from \$10 billion to \$19 billion in 2004. We have launched new initiatives such as the Millennium Challenge Account, the President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief, and initiatives to increase access to education, health and water, and combat famine, trafficking in persons, illegal logging, corruption, malaria, and other scourges.

Most recently, at the G8 Gleneagles Summit, leaders made substantial commitments with respect to Africa, climate change, reform in the Broader Middle East and North Africa, the global economy and oil, and trade. The Millennium Declaration acknowledges the special needs of Africa, and the G8, in cooperation with African leaders, have set forth concrete measures covering peace and stability, good governance, education, AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases, private sector development, debt relief, and humanitarian assistance. The G8 plan sees this as a moment of opportunity for Africa, recognizing that further progress in Africa depends above all on its own leaders and its own people.

Second, the outcome document should reaffirm the comprehensive approach to financing for development in the Monterrey Consensus.

The Monterrey Consensus is a blueprint for mobilizing resources for development from all potential sources. The current draft text, by contrast, is overburdened with numerous new initiatives that would be financed principally by ODA. The current draft also affirms ODA targets, which bear no relation to countries' needs or ability to use aid effectively and virtually ignores the need for an enabling environment at the national level for aid to be effective in promoting development.

Trade, foreign investment, remittances and private transfers dwarf ODA. The completion of the Doha Round could add \$200 billion annually to developing countries' income and lift more than 500 million people out of poverty. The Report of the UN Commission on the Private Sector and Development estimates that developing countries have \$9.4 trillion in private financial assets that cannot be fully mobilized because of corruption and inadequate legal protection for property and contracts.

Finally, the outcome document should elaborate responsibilities for governance at the national level and the role of the UN system for helping countries improve their governance.

The U.S. believes the document should affirm the importance of democratic governance, political and civil liberties, competitive markets and policies conducive to entrepreneurship, property rights, equal opportunity for women and rule of law. It should define the state's role in setting a policy framework for growth with equity.

Prosperity requires institutions at the national level that generate wealth and enable countries to participate in the global economy. Rich countries and successful developing countries have diverse policies, traditions and institutions, but all share certain basic building blocks. The HLE needs to recognize and affirm this.

To have a lasting impact on the fight against poverty, the UN needs to do more to help countries build the institutions and put in place the policies that will help them reap the benefits of globalization. NEPAD has shown leadership, including through its African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). There are opportunities for South-South cooperation that will help countries share experiences and lessons learned and emulate best practices.

The HLE is a unique opportunity to define the UN's mission in light of contemporary challenges. Development is about putting into place a complex set of policies and institutions that will generate economic growth and sustain it over the long haul to the benefit of all countries. This is the challenge for the HLE and the UN.

Our views on the sub-headings of the Development Chapter are summarized below:

Paragraph 16 - 17 (Introduction)

This section should not be limited to concern about uneven implementation. It should also recognize progress achieved and positive trends. In this section as in others, the U.S. proposes using the phrase *internationally agreed development goals* rather than the term *Millennium Development Goals* in order to be clear that we are referring to goals agreed among governments -- not the subsequent more elaborate framework of goals, targets and indicators prepared by the UN secretariat.

Paragraphs 18-21 (Global Partnership)

A global partnership is predicated on the acceptance by developing countries of their national responsibility to undertake specific reforms to improve their economic governance and respect for human rights and the rule of law. This national responsibility needs to be more fully reflected in the text, which currently focuses on the responsibilities of developed countries and the international community.

Paragraph 22 (Financing for Development)

This section of the document is entitled Financing for Development, but it focuses largely on ODA. While the U.S. strongly supports increased ODA to those countries that demonstrate an ability to use aid effectively, the U.S. does not accept global aid targets or global taxes. We also do not agree with proposals for frontloading aid because they do not take into account the absorptive capacity of aid recipients and can lead to economic distortions that impede development.

Paragraph 23 (Debt)

This section promotes a wholly negative view of debt that ignores the positive contribution that debt can play in financing development. Issues of debt sustainability are under active consideration in the international financial institutions, which are well equipped to analyze them and propose appropriate measures.

Paragraph 24 (Trade)

It is appropriate for a summit-level event to emphasize the vital role trade liberalization has played in promoting development throughout the world. It is also appropriate for leaders to encourage further ambitious liberalization efforts. It is not appropriate for leaders to prejudge the actual outcome of the Doha round.

Paragraph 25 (Quick Wins)

The United States strongly supports the concept of sustainable development. The idea of "quick wins" detracts from this concept and the need for durable solutions to the problems being addressed. The examples provided are questionable from a developmental perspective.

Paragraphs 26-30 (Global Governance and Systemic Issues)

The United States believes that it is important for all countries, including developing countries, to participate effectively in international economic decision-making and norm setting. However, it is up to each international institution to decide on its own governance procedures and structures, including those that pertain to participation and decision-making. Paragraph 29 asserts a primacy for the United Nations in international economic governance without respecting the roles and mandates of other institutions.

Paragraph 30-32 (South-South Cooperation, Education, and Rural and Agricultural Development)

While these paragraphs contain many laudable objectives that we support, they also call for new open-ended donor financial commitments to which the United States is unable to agree. Any potential new financial commitment in these areas must be evaluated in the context of the substantial resources already being deployed.

Paragraph 33 (Employment)

The reference to international macro economic policies is unclear. The insertion of the reference to the "elimination of the worst forms of child labor" brings the language into conformity with international agreements in this area.

Paragraph 34 (Protecting our Common Environment)

The United States amendments to this section are aimed at accurately reflecting the language of previous agreements and commitments and ensuring that the text does not imply commitment by countries to agreements to which they are not parties or new financing schemes or programs that are not well-defined.

Paragraph 35 (HIV/AIDS and other Health Issues)

Recent years have seen major undertakings and provision of substantial increases in resources for HIV/AIDS and other health issues in developing countries. The challenge now is to implement existing commitments rather than to add new initiatives. The U.S. edits are intended to accurately reflect such commitments.

Paragraph 36-37 (Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women)

We strongly support equality of opportunity, as distinguished from identical outcomes, for men and women.

Paragraph 38 (Science and Technology for Development)

The text overemphasizes the role of international support in the transfer of technology. Much technology is privately owned and is developed only because owners anticipate an economic return on their innovations. Developing countries seeking technology should implement policies that will attract investment from owners of technology.

Paragraph 39 (Migration)

While international cooperation can contribute to orderly migration, we believe it is essential for the text to recognize the sovereign rights of states in this area.

Paragraphs 40-43 (Countries with Special Needs)

Our proposed amendments are consistent with the outcomes of the referenced conferences.

Paragraphs 44 (Meeting the Special Needs of Africa)

The United States believes the outcome document should recognize the opportunities as well as the challenges Africa faces; it should not diminish the potential of the continent. To this end, the outcome should highlight the commitment of African countries to promote and enhance effective governance, democracy and human rights, as well as to emphasize and clearly define the supporting role of the international community. Debt relief beyond HIPC should be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

* * *

I look forward to working with you on a text that will underscore our common determination to promote development and achieve the internationally agreed development goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Bolton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John. R. Bolton
Ambassador

Enclosure: U.S. proposed edits to outcome document Chapter II (Development).

ADVANCE UNEDITED VERSION

~~115~~ August 2005

Future document

A/59/HLPM/CRP.1/Rev.2

**Revised draft outcome document of the
High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly of September 2005
submitted by the President of the General Assembly**

US EDITS – AUGUST 30, 2005

II. Development

16. We emphasize the ~~critical~~important role played by ~~the~~ major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives, which contributed to improving human life in different parts of the world.

16 bis. We welcome the unprecedented reduction in poverty during the past generation. We are determined to reinforce this trend that is benefiting the large majority of people around the world.

17. We remain concerned, however, by the slow and uneven implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, ~~including the Millennium Development Goals~~ and reaffirm our commitment to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all. We commit to promote the development of the productive sectors ~~of in~~ developing countries to help enable them to participate effectively in, and benefit from, the process of globalization.

Global Partnership for Development

18. We strongly reiterate our determination to ensure timely and full realization of the development goals and objectives that emerged from ~~the~~ major United Nations Conferences and Summits.

~~including the Millennium Development Goals that have galvanized unprecedented efforts towards helping the world's poorest overcome poverty.~~

19. We reaffirm our commitment to the global partnership for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Monterrey Consensus.

20. We further reaffirm our commitment to sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law; and to mobilizing domestic resources, attracting international flows, promoting international trade as an engine for development, increasing international

financial and technical cooperation for development, and sustainable debt financing, ~~and external debt relief, and enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems.~~

21. We reaffirm that each country must take primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized. We recognize also that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at maximiz promoting the development opportunities of developing countries. To this end, we resolve to:

- Adopt, by 2006, and begin to implement comprehensive national development strategies to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives ~~including the Millennium Development Goals by 2015~~;
 - Manage effectively public finances to achieve and maintain macro-economic stability and long-term growth and to make effective and transparent use of public funds; and ensure that development assistance is used to build national capacities;
 - Promote good governance at the national level ~~all levels~~, pursue sound macro-economic policies and put in place the policies and investments to drive sustained economic growth, stimulate the private sector and promote employment generation;
 - Establish and strengthen inclusive systems of democratic governance that secure civil and political liberties.
 - Promote the implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption; ~~and m~~Make the fight against corruption at all levels a priority, as agreed at Monterrey, and welcome all actions taken in this regard at the national and international levels including the adoption of polices that emphasize accountability, transparent public sector management, and competitive markets ~~and corporate responsibility and accountability~~; ~~and urge all States that have not done so to sign, ratify and implement the United Nations Convention Against Corruption;~~
 - Implement regulatory frameworks and commercial laws that encourage business formation and build public confidence in private markets through a clear definition of property rights, protection of those rights, transparent rulemaking, enforcement of contracts and general respect for the rule of law;
- ☐ Continue and support efforts in developing countries and countries with economies in transition to create a conducive domestic environment for attracting investments by, *inter alia* achieving a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate with proper contract enforcement and respect for property rights and the rule of law, and pursuing appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks;

- Put into place policies to ensure adequate investment in health and education, provision of public goods and social safety nets to protect vulnerable members of society;
- Support ~~starting in 2005~~, efforts by developing countries to adopt and implement national development policies and strategies, through increased development assistance, promotion of international trade as an engine for development, transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, increased investment flows and wider and deeper debt relief; Support developing countries by providing ~~predictable and sufficient~~ an increase in aid of sufficient quality ~~and arriving in a timely manner~~ to assist them in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, ~~including the Millennium Development Goals, bearing in mind the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international commitments;~~
- Enhance the role of NGOs, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in national development efforts, as well as in the promotion of the global partnership for development;
 - We call on UN funds, programmes and specialized agencies to support the efforts of developing countries by integrating national governance objectives into ~~through~~ the Common Country Assessments and UN Development Assistance Frameworks, and enhancing their support ~~for capacity building at the country level for capacity-building activities to support private sector development in developing countries, and tracking the progress of private sector development in developing countries.~~

□

Financing for Development

22. We reaffirm the Monterrey Consensus and recognize that mobilizing financial resources for development and effective use of these resources in ~~recipient- developing~~ countries are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those in the Millennium Declaration. In this regard:

- We are encouraged by the substantial increase in official development assistance since the Millennium Summit and by recent commitments to further substantial increases particularly for countries that are making efforts to use resources wisely, strengthen governance, and reduce poverty through sustainable economic growth. We are encouraged by recent commitments to substantial increases in official development assistance, while recognizing that a substantial increase in ODA is required to achieve the internationally agreed goals including, by 2015, the MDGs.

The ultimate goal of ODA is to stimulate the growth that will increase other resources and enable poor countries over time to reduce their aid dependency.;

- ~~We welcome the establishment of timetables by developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by no later than 2015 and to reach at least 0.5 per cent by 2009 and urge those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts and invite them to establish timetables in order to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent; we also urge those developed countries to achieve the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for ODA to least developed countries;~~
- We further welcome recent efforts and initiatives to enhance the quality of aid and to increase its impact, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and resolve to take concrete, effective and timely action in implementing all agreed commitments on aid effectiveness, including through further aligning assistance with countries' strategies, building institutional capacities, reducing transaction costs and eliminating bureaucratic procedures, enhancing the absorptive capacity and financial management of recipient countries and strengthening focus on development results;
- We recognize the need for increased ~~and more predictable~~ resources, and in that regard take note with interest of international efforts, contributions and discussions ~~such as the Action Against Hunger and Poverty~~ aimed at identifying innovative and additional sources of financing for development on a public, private, domestic or external basis and complementary to ODA. ~~We also welcome the pilot projects, to be implemented on a voluntary basis, for the International Finance Facility immunization and a solidarity contribution on plane tickets to finance development projects, in particular in the health sector, including the fight against HIV/AIDS and other pandemics, and agree to consider further other solidarity contributions that would be nationally applied and internationally coordinated;~~
- ~~We underline the urgent need for increased investment now, and therefore for immediate front loading of additional ODA commitments; and in that regard, welcome the decision to launch, in 2005, an International Finance Facility (IFF), on a voluntary basis, to support an immediate front loading of ODA commitments and encourage broad participation;~~
- We stress the need to maximize domestic resources ~~for to fund national~~ development ~~strategies~~ and recognize the need for access to financial services, in particular for the poorest, including through micro-finance and micro-credit;
- ☐ ~~We acknowledge the important role the private sector can play in generating new financing for development;~~ We acknowledge the leading role of the private sector in generating new financing for development, jobs, goods, services, and skills for the poor.

- ~~We resolve to support developing countries and economies in transition undertaking investment climate reforms, so that they might better mobilize the private domestic and foreign capital necessary for sustained economic development and growth, and to ensure that they have policies conducive to such investment and~~ We resolve to promote greater foreign direct investment flows to developing countries and countries with economies in transition to support their development activities and to enhance the benefits they can derive from such investments;
- ~~We commit to undertake measures to promote and sustain adequate and stable international capital flows to developing countries, particularly countries in Africa, Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, and landlocked developing countries, and to countries with economies in transition;~~
- ~~We resolve to continue to support development efforts of middle income developing countries by agreeing in competent multilateral and international fora and also through bilateral arrangements, on measures to help them meet, *inter alia*, their financial, technical and technological requirements, including through appropriate debt relief schemes;~~
- We ~~undertake~~ resolve to operationalize the World Solidarity Fund established by the General Assembly, ~~and invite those countries in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the Fund including by making voluntary contributions to it.~~

Debt

23. ~~Debt can be an important source of capital for development. Debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth. In this respect, we:~~ We emphasize the urgent need for an effective, comprehensive, durable and development-oriented solution to the debt problems of developing countries. To this end we:

- Welcome the recent decision of the G8 countries to cancel 100% of outstanding debts of eligible HIPC countries to the IMF, IDA and AFD and to provide additional resources to ~~protect ensure that~~ the financing capacity of the IFIs ~~is not reduced~~;
- Stress that the new debt sustainability framework should increase grant-based financing, limit the risk of future debt distress and liberate resources so as to help enable countries to achieve their national development goals.

~~Stress that in assessing debt sustainability, consideration should be given to the level of debt that allows a country to achieve its national development goals including the MDGs, recognizing the key role debt relief can play in liberating resources that can then be directed towards activities consistent with attaining sustainable growth and development;~~

~~Further stress the need to consider additional measures and initiatives aimed at ensuring long-term debt sustainability through increased grant-based financing; 100% debt cancellation of the official debt of HIPC countries; and significant debt reduction and cancellation~~

~~for many heavily indebted non-HIPC LDCs, low and middle income developing countries. Such initiatives could include efforts by the IMF and the World Bank to develop a debt sustainability framework for low income countries. This should be achieved without reducing resources channelled as ODA as well as other sources of financing available to other developing countries, while stressing the need to maintain the financial integrity of the multilateral financial institutions.~~

Trade

24. We ~~recommit~~resolve to promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, recognizing the major role that trade can play in promoting economic growth, employment and development for all, and are resolved undertake to:

- ~~□ Achieve the fullest realization of the Doha Ministerial Declaration Work Programme, including the critical development mandate of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, in particular in the areas identified in the 1 August 2004 decision of the General Council of the WTO, such as agriculture, cotton, non-agricultural market access, services, rules including trade facilitation, TRIPS, trade and the environment and development including special and differential treatment and to successfully complete, by 2006, the World Trade Organization Doha round of multilateral trade negotiations;~~
- Work towards the objective of Provide immediate duty-free and quota-free market access for all exports from the least developed countries ~~to the markets of developed countries as well as to the markets of developing countries in a position to do so;~~ and support their efforts to overcome their supply-side constraints ~~as well as volatile commodity prices and terms of trade;~~
- Support and promote increased aid to build productive and trade capacities of developing countries and to take further steps in this regard;
- Work to accelerate ~~and facilitate~~ the accession to the WTO of developing countries and countries with economies in transition that are willing and able to undertake WTO commitments to the WTO, recognizing the importance of universal integration in the rules-based global trading system;

Quick Wins

~~25. We agree to support the establishment and implementation of country led “quick win” initiatives consistent with long term national development strategies so as to realize major immediate progress towards the development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, through such measures as the free distribution of malaria bed nets and effective anti-malaria medicines, the expansion of home grown school meals programmes using locally produced foods and the elimination of user fees for primary education and health services.~~

~~Global Governance and Systemic Issues~~

26. We reaffirm the commitment contained in the Monterrey Consensus to broaden and strengthen the ~~voice and~~ participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, and to this end stress the importance of advancing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, as envisaged in the Monterrey Consensus and ~~undertake~~ resolve to find pragmatic and innovative ways to enhance the effective participation of those countries therein, ~~particularly in the Bretton Woods institutions.~~

~~27. We further recognize the urgent need to enhance the coherence, governance and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems.~~

28. We reaffirm our commitment to transparency in ~~the~~ financial, ~~monitoring~~ and trading systems. We are also committed to ~~an~~ open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non discriminatory ~~multilateral~~ trading and financial systems.

~~29. We further reaffirm the need for the United Nations to play a more decisive and central role in international development policy and in ensuring coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed by the international community and resolve to strengthen the coordination of the United Nations system and all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions to support economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development.~~

South-South Cooperation

30. We recognize the achievements and great potential of South-South Cooperation, and encourage the promotion of such cooperation, including in the area of trade which complements North-South cooperation as an effective contribution to development and as a means to share and transfer best practices and appropriate technologies. In this context, we welcome the recent decision of the leaders of the South to intensify their efforts at South-South Cooperation, ~~including through the establishment of the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership and reiterate the need for the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through the provision of the necessary resources, as well as through triangular cooperation.~~

30bis. We encourage establishment of South-South peer review mechanisms, such as the NEPAD APRM, to share national experiences, help one another solve problems and promote best practices.

Education

31. We emphasize the critical role of both formal and non-formal education as envisaged in the Millennium Declaration, in particular basic education and training for eradicating

illiteracy, and strive for expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and empowerment of those living in poverty. In this context, we ~~reaffirm~~ recognize the contribution made by the Dakar framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum and recognize the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education for All Programmes as a tool to achieve the Millennium Internationally Agreed Development Goal ~~Development Goal~~ on of universal primary education by 2015.

~~We also commit to support the efforts of developing countries in the implementation of the EFA, including through channeling resources through the Education For All Fast Track Initiative.~~

Rural and Agricultural Development

32. We reaffirm that food security, rural and agricultural development must be adequately addressed in the context of national development and response strategies. We are convinced that eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition is crucial for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals. ~~the MDGs~~. Rural development should be an integral part of national and international development policies. We deem it necessary to increase productive investment in rural and agricultural development to achieve food security.

~~We commit ourselves to increase ODA to agriculture and trade opportunities for developing countries.~~

Employment

33. We strongly support a fair globalization and resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of our national ~~and international macro-economic~~ policies as well as poverty reduction strategies. These measures should also encompass the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. We also resolve to protect the human rights of workers.

Protecting our Common Environment

34. We reaffirm our commitment to achieve the goal of sustainable development including through the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, in the context of the three pillars of sustainable development – economic development, social development, and environmental protection. We also re-commit to undertake concrete actions and measures at all levels, including integrating sustainable development in national development strategies, and enhancing international cooperation, taking into account the Rio principles, ~~inter alia the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities~~. ~~We recognize that climate change is a serious and long-term challenge that has the potential to affect every part of the world. We call for further technological and financial international cooperation for the sustainable use and~~

~~management of natural resources in order to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns as a means of keeping the balance between the conservation of natural resources and the furtherance of social and economic objectives. We therefore resolve to:~~

- ~~• Promote further technological and financial international cooperation for the sustainable use and management of natural resources in order to pPromote sustainable consumption and production patterns as called for in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;~~

- ~~• Undertake concerted global action to address climate change, including through meeting all commitments and obligations under the Kyoto Protocol, the UNFCCC and other relevant international agreements, increase energy efficiency, technological innovation, and to initiate negotiations to develop a more inclusive international framework for climate change beyond 2012, with broader participation by both developing and developed countries, taking into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities;~~

~~Act with resolve and urgency to meet our shared and multiple objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving the global environment, enhancing energy security and reducing air pollution in conjunction with our vigorous efforts to reduce poverty.~~

~~Promote innovation, energy efficiency, conservation, improve policy, regulatory and financing frameworks; and accelerate deployment of cleaner technologies, particularly lower emitting technologies~~

- ~~• Work with developing countries to enhance private investment and transfer of technologies, taking into account their own energy needs, and to help them build capacity to improve their resilience and integrate adaptation goals into sustainable development strategies~~

- ~~• Continue to assist developing countries, particularly SIDS, LDCs and countries in Africa in addressing their adaptation needs relating to the adverse effects of climate change;~~

- ~~• Support and strengthen the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa to address causes of desertification and land degradation and poverty resulting from land degradation through *inter alia* the mobilization of adequate and predictable financial resources, transfer of technologies and capacity building at all levels;~~

~~Support the Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Johannesburg commitment for a significant reduction in the rate of loss of~~

~~biodiversity by 2010; and undertake to intensify~~ Fulfill commitments to significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010. and continue ongoing efforts towards elaborating and negotiating an international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing ~~with the aim of adopting an instrument/instruments to effectively implement relevant provisions and objectives of the Convention;~~

- Reaffirm the commitment, subject to national legislation, to respect, preserve and maintain knowledge of innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization;
- Recognize that the sustainable development of indigenous people is crucial in our fight against hunger and poverty;
- Work towards the establishment of ~~Establish, by 2006,~~ a worldwide early warning system for all natural hazards, with regional nodes, building on existing national and regional capacity;
- Commit to fully implementing the Hyogo Declaration and Hyogo Framework of Action 2005-2015 adopted at World Conference on Disaster Reduction, particularly those commitments relating to assistance to affected and disaster-prone developing countries;
- Assist developing countries efforts to provide access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation for all in accordance with the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, accelerate the preparation of national integrated water resources management and water-efficiency plans, and support well designed efforts by developing countries, as part of their national development strategies ~~launch a programme of action with financial and technical support,~~ to halve by 2015, the proportion of people living without safe drinking water or basic sanitation;
- Improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable and environmentally sound energy services, resources and technologies, in particular to developing countries;

~~on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;~~

- Strengthen ~~the conservation and~~ sustainable management ~~and development~~ of all types of forests for the benefit of current and future generations, including through enhanced international cooperation, so that trees and forests contribute fully to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those

contained in the Millennium Declaration, taking full account of the linkages between the forest sector and other sectors;

- Promote the sound management of chemical and hazardous waste throughout their life cycles ~~in order to ensure that~~ aiming to achieve by 2020 that chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment using transparent science-based risk assessment and risk management procedures;
- Improve cooperation and coordination ~~at all levels in order~~ to address issues related to all aspects of oceans and seas in an integrated manner and to promote integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas;
- Achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by ~~2020~~ recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading and supporting increasing contributions to the United Nations Human Settlements Foundation ~~and its Slum Upgrading Facility~~;
- ~~Commit to fund multilateral initiatives and agencies in the field of sustainable development, and in this regard~~ Look forward to a successful replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) this year, along with the successful conclusion of all outstanding reform commitments from the third replenishment.
~~resolve to successfully replenish the Global Environment Facility (GEF).~~

HIV/AIDS and other Health Issues

35. We recognize that HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and other infectious diseases pose severe risks for the entire world and serious challenges to the achievement of development goals. These diseases and other emerging health challenges require a concerted international response. To this end, we commit ourselves to:

- Support the efforts of developing countries to strengthen their health systems, particularly with respect to capacities to address AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis.
- ~~Launch, by 2006, a global initiative to strengthen by 2010, national health systems in developing countries by building on existing mechanisms with sufficient health workers, infrastructure, management systems and supplies to achieve the health-related MDGs;~~
- Meet the targets established by the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, through stronger leadership, scaling up a comprehensive response to achieve broad multisectoral coverage for prevention, care, treatment and support, and mobilizing additional resources from national, bilateral, multilateral and private sources, including increased funding for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Ensure that the resources needed for prevention, treatment, care and support, the elimination of stigma and discrimination, as well as enhanced access to affordable

~~medicines, reduced vulnerability of affected persons in particular orphan children and older persons and an expanded and comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS, and for full funding of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, as well as UN system agencies and programmes engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS, are provided universally by 2010;~~

- Fully implement the commitments made at the General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS;
- Ensure implementation of our respective obligations under the World Health Organization's revised International Health Regulations, upon their entry into force, and emphasize the need to increase resources for the WHO Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN);
- ~~Ensure the full implementation of the 2005 World Health Assembly of the revised International Health Regulations, and emphasize the need to increase resources for the WHO Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN);~~ Actively work to implement the Three Ones principles in all countries including ensuring that multiple institutions and international partners all work under one agreed HIV/AIDS framework that provides the basis for coordinating the work of all partners; with one national AIDS coordinating authority with a broad-based multisectoral mandate; and under one agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system; ~~with national AIDS coordinating authorities to align their support to national strategies, policies, systems, cycles and annual priorities action plans;~~
- Achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015 as set out at the ICPD, integrating this goal in strategies to attain the internationally agreed –development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration aimed at improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty;
- ~~Ensure long term public funding for academic and for industrial research, as well as development of new medicines and treatments to address the great pandemics and other tropical diseases;~~

Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women

36. We remain convinced-reaffirm that the full and effective implementation of the goals and objectives of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is essential to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration; and resolve to promote gender equality and to eliminate pervasive gender discrimination by:

- Eliminating gender inequalities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all educational levels by 2015;

- Guaranteeing the right of women to own and inherit property, ~~housing and inheritance laws~~ and ensuring secure tenure of property and housing to women;
- Ensuring access to reproductive health;
- Promoting equal access for women to labour markets, sustainable employment as well as adequate labour protections;
- Ensuring the protection of women and the girl child during and after armed conflicts in accordance with the obligations of States under international humanitarian and human rights law;
- Promoting equal ~~participation and representation of~~ opportunity for men and women to participate in government decision making bodies; and
- Supporting direct actions to protect women and the girl child from discrimination and violence, including by ending impunity, in particular in situations of wars and civil strife.

37. We recognize the importance of gender mainstreaming as a tool for achieving gender equality. To this end, we undertake to actively promote mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and we further undertake to strengthen the UN system's capabilities in the area of gender.

Science and Technology for Development

38. We recognize that science and technology, including information and communication technology, play a critical role in the achievement of the development goals and that international support can help ~~is essential for enabling~~ developing countries to benefit from the technological advancements. We therefore commit to:

- Support voluntary partnerships between the public and private sectors ~~Strengthen and enhance existing mechanisms and consider, as recommended by the UN Millennium Project, initiatives~~ to support research and development to address the special needs of developing countries in the areas of health, agriculture, conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;
- ~~Promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how to~~ developing countries;

- Assist developing countries in their efforts to promote and develop national strategies for human resources and science and technology which are primary drivers of national capacity building for development;
- Implement policies at the national and international levels to attract both domestic and foreign investments that enhance knowledge, transfer technology on mutually agreed terms and raise productivity;
- ~~Support Supplement~~ the efforts of developing countries, individually and collectively, to harness new agriculture technologies, in order to increase agricultural productivity through environmentally sustainable means;
- Build a people centered and inclusive information society so as to enhance digital opportunities for all people ~~bridge the digital divide~~ and put the potential of ICTs at the service of development and address new challenges of information society by implementing the outcomes of the Geneva phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), and by ensuring the success of the second phase of the WSIS to be held in Tunis in November 2005.

Migration

39. ~~We acknowledge the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with this issue in a coordinated and coherent manner with a view to addressing the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, destination and transit.~~ We recognize that international migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community. We further recognize the sovereign right of states to formulate and enforce national migration policies and the role of international cooperation on migration in facilitating the implementation of effective and humane migration policies. In this regard, we support the General Assembly high-level dialogue on international migration and development in 2006 with a view to identifying best practices on controlled migration.

~~We further recognize the need to enhance international cooperation on migration issues to ensure that the movement of people across borders is managed in a more effective and humane manner. In this regard, we resolve to ensure the success of the General Assembly high-level dialogue on international migration and development in 2006 which will offer an opportunity to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts. We reaffirm our commitment to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families~~

Countries with Special Needs

40. We reaffirm our commitment to address the special needs of LDCs, and urge all developed countries, ~~and developing countries in a position to do so~~ as well as all relevant organizations of the UN system, including the Bretton Woods Institutions to

make concerted efforts and adopt speedy measures for meeting in timely manner the goals and targets of the Brussels Programme of Action for the LDCs for the decade 2001-2010.

41. We recognize the special needs of and challenges faced by LLDCs and therefore reaffirm our commitment to urgently address those needs and challenges through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and the Sao Paulo Consensus adopted at UNCTAD XI. ~~Such implementation should be quantified with a time bound set of indicators to measure the progress.~~

42. We recognize the special needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS and reaffirm our commitment to take urgent and concrete actions to address these needs and vulnerabilities through the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy adopted by the United Nations International Meeting, the Barbados Programme of Action and the outcome of the 22nd Special Session of the General Assembly. ~~We further undertake, starting in 2006, to promote greater international cooperation for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy through the mobilization of financial resources on a more predictable basis.~~

43. We also emphasize the need for continued, coordinated and effective international support for achieving the development goals in countries emerging from conflict and in those recovering from disasters.

Meeting the Special Needs of Africa

43bis. We support Africa's efforts to build a peaceful, stable and prosperous Africa. We also welcome African institutions' engagement in promoting and enhancing effective governance and tackling corruption, including NEPAD's strong statements in support of democracy and human rights. Well-governed states are critical to peace and security, economic growth and prosperity, ensuring respect for human rights and promotion of gender equality and the delivery of essential services to the citizens of Africa.

44. ~~We w~~Welcoming the substantial progress Africa has made in recent years in addressing its challenges and realizing its opportunities, and also the recent decisions taken by Africa's ~~sa~~ partners, including the G8 and the European Union, in support of Africa's development efforts, ~~we and~~ reaffirm our commitment to support Africa's peoples as they strive to urgently meet the special needs of their continent Africa, which is the only continent not on track to meet any of the goals of the Millennium Declaration by 2015, to enable it to enter the mainstream of the world economy, we resolve to:

- Strengthen cooperation with NEPAD through coherent support for the programmes drawn up by African leaders within that framework, including through mobilization of internal and external financial resources and facilitating approval of such programmes by the multilateral financial institutions;

- Support the African commitment to ensure that by 2015 all children have access to a complete, free and compulsory education of good quality, as well as to basic health care;
- Support the building of an international infrastructure consortium - involving the AU, NEPAD, the World Bank and the African Development Bank, ~~—or be recognized by NEPAD as the lead agency to for facilitating~~ facilitate public and private infrastructure investment in Africa;
- Promote a comprehensive and durable solution to the external debt problems of African countries, including through 100% cancellation of multilateral debt consistent with the HIPC Initiative and relief beyond HIPC in specific cases to secure long term debt sustainability; ~~significant debt reduction and cancellation for heavily indebted non-HIPC low and middle income developing countries~~;
- Make efforts to fully integrate African countries in the international trading system, including through targeted capacity-building programmes and on bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations;
- ~~Commit to~~ sSupport the efforts of commodity dependent African countries to restructure, diversify and strengthen the competitiveness of their commodity sectors, ~~and decide to work towards market-based arrangements with the participation of the private sector for commodity price risk management~~;
- Supplement the efforts of African countries, individually and collectively, to increase agricultural productivity, in a sustainable way, as set out in NEPAD's Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Plan; ~~part of an African Green Revolution to be launched in 2005~~;
- Encourage and support the African Union and ~~regional and~~ sub-regional organizations' initiatives to prevent, mediate and resolve conflicts with the assistance of the United Nations, and in this regard welcome the proposals from the G8 to provide extra resources for African peace-keeping;
- Provide, as a priority, assistance for HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment in African countries ~~on a grant basis, and encourage pharmaceutical companies to make anti-retroviral drugs affordable and accessible in Africa~~ and ensure increased support for bilateral and multilateral assistance to combat malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa.