

ACHIEVING THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN AFRICA



Recommendations of the MDG Africa Steering Group

FACT SHEET

The MDG Africa Steering and Working Groups

The MDG Africa Steering Group was convened by United Nations Secretary-General BAN Ki-moon on 14 September 2007. The Steering Group brings together the leaders of multilateral political and financial organizations to identify the practical steps needed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other internationally agreed development goals in Africa.

Members

The Group is chaired by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and comprises the President of the African Development Bank Group, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the President of the European Commission, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the President of the Islamic Development Bank Group, the Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the President of the World Bank Group.

Objectives

The Steering Group's objectives are to:

- strengthen international mechanisms for measures in the areas of health, education, agriculture and food security, infrastructure and trade facilitation, and national statistical systems;
- improve aid predictability; and
- enhance coordination at the country level.

Working Group

The Steering Group is supported by the MDG Africa Working Group, which is chaired by the United Nations Deputy Secretary-General and comprises representatives of the UN System and other major multilateral organizations. The Working Group met for the first time on 20 September 2007 and frequently thereafter. The Working Group has supported the Steering Group's identification of a set of key recommendations that, if implemented, would accelerate African countries' progress in achieving the MDGs.

Background

In its landmark 2008 recommendations, officially launched during the 11th African Union Summit in Sharm El-Sheikh, the Steering Group established a definitive international understanding on what needs to be done to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in Africa, outlining concrete opportunities to turn existing commitments into tangible actions.

The UN Secretary-General first gathered the MDG Africa Steering Group on 14 September 2007, in an effort to mobilize the leaders of the UN System and major multilateral and intergovernmental organizations in support of reaching the MDGs in Africa. This followed his announcement at the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm in 2007 of his establishment of a new mechanism to spur faster progress towards meeting the MDGs in Africa. The Steering Group reconvened on 10 March 2008 to review its recommendations and to identify the most effective ways to implement them.

For further information, please visit: www.mdgafrica.org



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