

**General Assembly**

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**Fifty-seventh session**

Agenda items 44, 86 (d) and 88

**Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit**

**Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership**

**Operational activities for development**

**Letter dated 18 March 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

On 24 and 25 February, the heads of multilateral and bilateral development institutions and representatives of the International Monetary Fund, other multilateral financial institutions and partner countries gathered in Rome to attend the High-Level Forum on Harmonization. The meeting was co-sponsored by five multilateral development banks — the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank — the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Italian Government. The issues debated have a great relevance in the light of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and testify to the efforts to improve the effectiveness of development assistance to meet the Millennium development goals.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and the attached Rome Declaration on Harmonization (see enclosure) distributed as a document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly under agenda item 44, entitled “Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit”, agenda item 86 (d) entitled “Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: high-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership”, and agenda item 88, entitled “Operational activities for development”.

(Signed) Sergio **Vento**  
Permanent Representative

**Enclosure**

**Rome Declaration on Harmonization**

**Rome, 25 February 2003**