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High-level task force on the right to development

**Report of the high-level task force on the implementation
of the right to development on its second meeting**

Chairperson-Rapporteur: Stephen Marks

Summary

This report, submitted in response to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/4, contains the summary of the proceedings, as well as the conclusions and recommendations of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development for the consideration of the Working Group.

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Introduction

1. At its fifth session, in February 2004, the Working Group on the Right to Development agreed to recommend to the Commission on Human Rights that it establish a high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development, within the framework of the Working Group, in order to assist it in fulfilling its mandate as reflected in paragraph 10 (a) of Commission resolution 1998/7. At its sixth session, in February 2005, the Working Group agreed to recommend to the Commission to extend the mandate of the high-level task force for a further period of one year (see E/CN.4/2005/25).

2. The high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development convened its second meeting in Geneva from 14 to 18 November 2005. As requested by the Working Group (*ibid.*, para. 54 (i)), the mandate of the task force was to consider Millennium Development Goal 8, on global partnership for development, and to suggest criteria for its periodic evaluation with the aim of improving the effectiveness of global partnerships with regard to the realization of the right to development.

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening of the session

3. The high-level task force was opened by Mr. Zdzislaw Kedzia, Chief, Research and Right to Development Branch, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), followed by the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development, H.E. Ambassador Ibrahim Salama (Egypt), who briefly highlighted the process that had preceded the constitution of the task force and underlined the importance that the Working Group placed on this initiative to guide its further work. Before the opening of the meeting, the members of the task force and the trade, development and financial institutions invited to attend the meeting were introduced.

B. Election of the Chairperson-Rapporteur

4. At its first meeting, on 14 November 2005, the high-level task force elected by acclamation Stephen Marks as Chairperson-Rapporteur.

C. Adoption of the agenda

5. At the same meeting, the task force adopted its agenda (E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/1 and Add.1) and programme of work. The agenda as adopted is contained in annex I.

D. Attendance

6. The following members of the high-level task force attended the meeting: Stephen Marks (United States of America); Sabine von Schorlemer (Germany); Leonardo Garnier Rímolo (Costa Rica); and Habib Ouane (Mali).

7. Representatives of the following identified trade, development and financial institutions and organizations participated as experts: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO).

8. The Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group attended the meeting, as did Eibe Reidel, member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and Yash Tandon, adviser to the task force. In addition, the following experts also contributed to the work of the task force: Fateh Azzam, Sakiko Fukuda-Parr and Margot Salomon.

9. Representatives of the following States members of the Commission on Human Rights attended the meeting of the high-level task force as observers: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Ukraine and United States of America.

10. The following States were also represented at the high-level task force as observers: Afghanistan, Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Denmark, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Yemen. The Holy See was also represented.

11. The following United Nations bodies and intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: International Organization of la Francophonie, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), Organization for Economic Cooperation for Development (OECD), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

12. The following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council were represented by observers: Franciscans International, New Humanity.

E. Documentation

13. The high-level task force had before it a number of pre-session and background documents to inform its deliberations. A complete list of documents is attached at annex II.

F. Group statements by Member States

14. In a statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the representative of Malaysia expressed gratitude to the representatives of international organizations for participating in the discussion and stated that the diversity of experience within the task force had enriched the discussion on the right to development. With regard to the task force's mandate of this year, Millennium Development Goal 8 was important for the realization of all human rights, including the right to development. NAM attached particular importance to the findings of the task force on the issues of mutual accountability and policy space, as well as on how the evaluation criteria for goal 8 could be enhanced from the perspective of the right to development.

15. In a statement on behalf of the European Union (EU), the observer for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed the second meeting of the high-level task force, which had demonstrated the benefits of having a dialogue on the right to development with a practical, rather than a theoretical approach. The question of how the effectiveness of global partnership as formulated in goal 8 could be improved was the right basis for appropriate action at both the national and international levels for the realization of the right to development. The observer also expressed firm support by the EU for the Monterrey Consensus and its commitment to undertake all necessary actions with a view to assisting developing countries to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

II. SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS

16. In considering the issues put forward at the seventh session of the Working Group (see para. 2), the task force decided to consider its mandate as follows: the task force would first consider the evolution of and recent developments with regard to global partnerships, with presentations on existing partnerships for development and mutual commitment, from the regional and national perspectives. That would be followed by a discussion on criteria for the evaluation of goal 8, and how these could be enhanced from the perspective of the right to development. The deliberations would be concluded by a general discussion on the right to development and the value-added to global partnerships. Each topic would be introduced by one member of the task force. After the public meetings, the task force would meet for two days in closed meetings to discuss, finalize and adopt its report, with conclusions and recommendations, to be presented to the Working Group on the Right to Development.

A. Global partnerships for development: evolution and recent developments

17. The focus of this session was on how global partnerships for development had evolved and on salient recent developments that were pertinent to and impacted upon these global partnerships. In the morning, the focus of the meeting was on aid, which was framed in an introduction by Sabine von Schorlemer. Professor von Schorlemer highlighted the relevance of goal 8, as it encompassed important aspects of debt, aid and trade. The World Summit held in September 2005 reflected the current consensus on these three issues, but not with adequate concreteness and detail from the perspective of human rights, and pointed to the lack of a time frame for action aimed at the realization of the Millennium Development Goals.

18. The expert from the World Bank expressed the view that developments in the field of human rights were encouraging, such as the promised increase in the budget for the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the United Nations human rights programme, and the endorsement of the OHCHR plan of action. He recognized that human rights crucially complemented sound economic policies and a good investment climate. He informed the task force that the World Bank was currently undertaking an internal review of its operations, and examining the direct and indirect linkages between human rights and its policies and instruments. Given recent commitments by Governments with respect to human rights, partner countries could be expected to give more prominence to human rights issues in their national poverty reduction strategies, including equal opportunities for men and women, as well as access to land, education, health care and water. The World Bank was also working with OHCHR on how it could assist the Office in implementing its plan of action and on how to strengthen collaboration.

19. The expert from the OECD made a presentation on the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The Paris Declaration, one of the landmark events in 2005 together with the 2005 World Summit, placed strong emphasis on mutual accountability, partnership, transparency and development. With the support of donor countries, donor agencies and partner countries, the Declaration aimed to dramatically improve the quality and effectiveness of aid. One of the key challenges would be to move from theory to practice, as donors would have to change their way of providing aid. The commitments under the Paris Declaration were not legally binding, and therefore depended on the political will of the signatories.

20. Professor Marks made mention of the Montreal Statement on Human Rights and Access to Essential Medicines adopted by a group of experts, academics and international organizations in September 2005, which reiterated that health was a human right and that essential medicines had a key role to play in its realization. With regard to the development of policy instruments, such as a health and human rights impact assessment, the Statement called for “all policy decisions or agreements likely to have a significant effect on health [to] be preceded by a transparent and independent health impact assessment. All parties to the decision or agreement are obligated to minimise foreseeable negative impacts on health identified by such assessment”.

21. In the discussion following these presentations, questions were raised with regard to the issue of accountability, as the Millennium Development Goals were not legally binding but were linked to legally binding international human rights instruments. It was also emphasized that States should not put aside their human rights obligations under international instruments when negotiating in other forums, such as those relating to international finance and trade. The expert from the World Bank stated that it was making progress in gathering empirical evidence establishing causal links between (violations of) human rights and (negative) social and economic development outcomes, which would enable it to explicitly address civil and political rights. It was important to go beyond semantic overlaps between terminology used in human rights and in other fields, such as transparency and accountability, and to see how they were taking place in reality.

22. In introducing the afternoon session, which focused more on the aspects of trade and debt, Professor Leonardo Garnier Rímolo traced the trajectory of debates on trade and development and the shifting attitudes towards free trade as a force for economic growth and convergence. Over the past 20 years, convergence had again come to be seen as the inevitable result of free trade. However, it still remained an illusive goal despite an opening up of economies and dismantling of protectionist instruments. It was in this context that the issue of “rights” had been introduced into the debate on trade together with notions of fair, development-oriented trade.

23. The expert from UNDP highlighted the importance of trade policy outcomes to the right to development and goal 8. He pointed to a number of difficulties with the formulation of the goal: it provided no timetable for policy change; targets and indicators were general statements of objectives rather than policy changes; and it was silent on the need to increase the voices of poor countries in international decision-making. There were also inherent limitations to a mercantilist, reciprocal multilateral trade negotiating process in delivering pro-poor outcomes. UNDP, as part of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance, supported

trade capacity development for the least-developed countries. Attaining the trade component of goal 8 was far off, and much work remained to be done on “aid for trade” that prioritized the needs of the poorest countries.

24. The expert from the IMF gave a presentation on the recently adopted Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) to help the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) meet the Millennium Development Goals, foster longer-term debt sustainability, and improve balance of payments positions. Key issues raised by MDRI included (i) preserving uniformity of treatment among members (i.e. the principle of non-discrimination); (ii) ensuring that all freed resources were used for poverty reduction purposes (e.g. basic health, education); and (iii) promoting sound macroeconomic policies so that beneficiaries did not immediately reaccumulate debt levels that could become unsustainable. In many countries, rather than focusing on economic, social and cultural rights (like food, health and housing), or external aid, the recipe for economic success had often been the promotion of economic freedom (i.e. voluntary exchange, freedom to compete, protection of persons and property, and a limited but effective State) as well as civil and political rights.

25. The expert from WTO underlined that global partnership for development involved some degree of reciprocity. Most importantly, market openings benefited not only trade partners but also the country that liberalized: both developed and developing countries stood to gain from trade liberalization. Gains for developing countries hinged as much on their own liberalization as on the market opening made by trade partners. Developing countries had acquired greater leverage in WTO negotiations and increasingly used WTO rules to defend their interests. While the upcoming Hong Kong Ministerial Conference presented challenges, ambitions for the completion of the Doha Round were high.

26. According to the expert from UNCTAD, a majority of least developed countries (LDCs) were not on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. If past trends persisted, the number of people living in poverty in the LDCs would increase from 334 million in 2000 to 471 million in 2015. Research had shown that LDCs with an export specialization in primary commodities had significantly higher levels of poverty and were more likely to have unsustainable external debt burdens. An overall decrease of aid targeted at productive-sector development in past years raised concerns about the ability of countries to generate the high and sustainable rates of economic growth necessary for a sustainable reduction of poverty and the realization of the right to development.

27. In the discussion, task force members and observers debated philosophical dimensions of human rights, including an assertion by an observer for an international organization speaking in his personal capacity questioning the long-standing and fundamental tenet of the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights and the relationship between individual freedom and collective needs. Attention was further drawn to the importance of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement in ensuring access to essential drugs in LDCs, and pointed out that development aid should be evaluated against factors other than economic growth, such as global peace and stability.

B. Existing partnerships for development and mutual commitment: regional and national perspectives

28. Yash Tandon introduced the second segment, on existing partnerships and mutual commitment: regional and national perspectives, which focused on the regional. He presented three main points for consideration by the task force: replace a limiting, fishbowl perspective with a eagle-eye's view, in order to have a broader view of things and an holistic view; replace economics as if only the market matters with economics as if human being matter, placing the human being at the centre of all economic activity; and replace top-down conditionalities with bottom-up conditionalities.

29. The expert from NEPAD made a presentation on the activities and experiences of NEPAD, stressing that the right to development remained a critical issue in Africa. As a socio-economic programme which aimed to address escalating poverty and the continued marginalization of Africa, NEPAD sought to guarantee Africa's renewal and industrialization. It also sought to strengthen and promote African ownership and leadership, while at the same time ensuring that all partnerships were linked to the Millennium Development Goals and the agreed developments goals and targets set for Africa. She underscored that the desired outcomes of the NEPAD were: an environment conducive to sustainable socioeconomic development in Africa; more effective policies and development programmes for the eradication of poverty; increased mobilization of domestic and foreign resources from both public and private sectors; stronger and more effective African participation in the international arena, including genuine partnerships with developed countries based on mutual respect, trust and accountability. The main challenges were: the need for greater inflows of resource and greater access to markets; the need for more predictability in policies and funding; and the need to build Africa's capacity to manage its own development and ensure comprehensive and sustainable support for human rights.

30. The expert from the OECD gave an overview of good practices of accountability reviews, particularly in the context of the OECD-NEPAD Mutual Review on Development Effectiveness initiative. She stressed the centrality of mutual accountability of States for development in this process. She also discussed the assessment of the impact of the trade policies of OECD countries in Africa. In her view, the existence of NEPAD enabled OECD to interact with Africa and carry out the mutual review process on the basis of a report that was an independent analysis and an assessment based on empirical data. With regard to good practices for mutual accountability arrangements, she underscored that ownership and leadership were essential for follow-up and the achievement of results, as well as empirical data that underpinned performance and established credibility, without "naming and shaming". Finally, she pointed out that Africa was assessed as a whole and the idea of adapting lessons learned was a strong point of the assessment, creating momentum as it provided for dialogue and exchange on the strength and quality of the report and helping to build jointly a commitment to the development process.

31. The expert from UNECA focused his presentation on the mutual accountability review conducted with the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of OECD and his organization's participation in monitoring African within the framework of NEPAD and commitments made by the Group of eight (G-8). He said that Africans were making progress in human rights, enhancing good governance, building peace and security, establishing equity and dealing with

corruption. Governance systems were becoming more inclusive and diverse with regard to civil society and non-State actors, voting participation had increased, political parties had greater legitimacy, and respect for human rights was gradually improving. The key challenges included the lack of peace and security and economic growth, and corruption, which continued to undermine socioeconomic growth and development, as well as capacity gaps in governance institutions. He also referred to the African Peer Review Mechanism, a NEPAD voluntary self-monitoring mechanism aimed at ensuring that the policies and practices of participating States conformed to the agreed political, economic and corporate governance values contained in the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in July 2002. He suggested that it could be used in monitoring progress in implementing the right to development.

32. In the ensuing discussion, it was highlighted that conditionality imposed on the countries from the South were too punitive and often led to greater poverty. There was a need to rethink conditionalities and to give the capacity and space to States to define their own policies for development instead of their being designed by the donor countries. It was also mentioned that there was a need to create the capacity for developing countries to engage their development framework in a context of international cooperation that did respect equity, e.g. to enable developing countries to access markets. Reference was also made to structural obstacles and barriers in the existing international order that perpetuated international inequality. Some participants stressed that there was an imperative need to adopt a new approach with respect to development cooperation by moving away from classical notions of conditionality to a broader understanding of a partnership that involved leaving decisions about the development processes largely to partner countries.

33. In the afternoon, focusing on the national dimension, including country presentations, Fateh Azzam presented his paper on the right to development and practical strategies for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly goal 8 (E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/CRP.1). His paper showed that the right to development and a rights-based approach had not taken hold in most country reports on the Goals. The challenge was how to convince States of the added value of a rights-based approach. According to Mr. Azzam, the reports studied acknowledged the importance of participation but contained limited information on how participation could be ensured. Furthermore, transnational corporations and international financial institutions should also be held accountable to the human rights framework underlying the right to development concept, given their significant decision-making power and major role in global partnerships for development.

34. The country presentation on Belgium explained how the right to development was integrated into Belgian international cooperation for development. Efforts had been made to raise awareness among the population on international cooperation and fair trade, and that development cooperation had to be consistent with international human rights law. It was also mentioned that Belgium supported an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

35. The country presentation on Ghana shared the country's experience with its national poverty reduction strategy. Under the HIPC compact, the strategy, initially based on the Millennium Development Goals, had been prepared following consultations with a national

forum of stakeholders and with a sample of 36 community groups, but had been transformed into the mandatory framework of domestic economic policy in return for a grant of debt relief. A new strategy was being drawn up for 2006-2009. While the Ghana's Constitution, legal system and development policies adhered to the tenets of the right to development, many actors in Ghana did not adopt a rights-based approach to development.

36. The country presentation on Finland stressed the country's comprehensive approach to the Goals, placing them within the broader framework of the United Nations Millennium Declaration. Efforts had been made to incorporate a rights-based approach in development cooperation. Finland gave particular importance to economic, social and cultural rights, and supported an optional protocol to the Covenant. Finland's policy on international cooperation placed emphasis on assistance to LDCs and supported the HIPC initiative. The presentation also referred to the Helsinki process on globalization and democracy, as well as to efforts by Nordic countries to promote the human rights aspects of development within the World Bank.

37. The country presentation on Ethiopia noted that the Constitution of 1995 specifically provided for the right to development. The realization of the right to development required genuine development partnerships. Efforts to that end should be founded on: (i) a mutual understanding of the nature of such partnership; (ii) operational human rights principles; and (iii) practical and genuine measures by donors to operationalize development assistance frameworks. In addition to programmes to fight poverty, a well-functioning civil service and measures to counter corruption and abuse of power were of paramount importance.

38. Professor Marks presented the main findings of a series of country studies on the implementation of the right to development in practice under the Right to Development Project of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University, funded by the Government of the Netherlands. Country studies had been carried out by national researchers in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ghana, India, Mali, the Philippines and Sri Lanka focusing on the rights to food, education and health. Main conclusions of the studies emphasized the importance of: (i) good governance and capacity-building of public administrations; (ii) investment in education and agriculture; (iii) adherence to right to development principles; (iv) explicit references to a right to development in policies and programmes; (v) domestic remedies and transforming directive principles into justiciable rights.

39. In the discussion, issues raised included: how the progressive realization of economic, social and cultural rights might be meaningfully evaluated; the importance of establishing mutual accountability systems for the Goals; the difference between obligations of conduct and obligations of result; the need to strengthen participation in existing partnership initiatives, particularly by including marginalized groups such as internally displaced persons and refugees; the importance of ensuring policy coherence; and the importance of finalizing and testing the OHCHR draft guidelines on a rights-based approach to poverty reduction strategies.

C. Millennium Development Goal 8: criteria for evaluation

40. The morning meeting on Wednesday addressed criteria for evaluation of goal 8. The issue was framed by Professor Garnier Rímolo, who emphasized the need for appropriate actions and related criteria for assessing the realization of the right to development and for identifying relevant duty holders and duty bearers. The right to development was to be measured against the

criteria of rising wages, productivity, social investment, trade and free movement of people, goods and capital, as well as against the corresponding measures taken by countries, firms and international organisations.

41. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr presented her paper on indicators for assessing international obligations in the context of goal 8 (E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/CRP.2), stating that the framework presently provided to monitor goal 8 was inadequate from the perspective of the right to development, including its lack of quantitative indicators, time-bound targets, appropriate measures to address current policy challenges, and the lack of ownership of the development process. She stressed the need for a conceptual framework on indicators of human rights that should measure the conduct of policies for the realization of human rights and international responsibility. Whereas socioeconomic development monitoring had focused on human outcomes - social and economic conditions - human rights monitoring also required considering several actors, process as well as outcome indicators, and benchmarking to measure progressive realization. Important parameters in that regard were the obligations to respect, protect and fulfil, as well as non-discrimination, adequate progress, participation and remedy. She also highlighted that international obligations focused on obstacles that Governments could not address on their own, i.e. resource requirements beyond domestic capacities, the current international policy environment and systemic asymmetries in international structures.

42. In his intervention, Eibe Riedel underscored the need for both quantitative and qualitative indicators. He mentioned the work in this area done by the Secretariat for the treaty bodies and the development and identification of different structural, process and outcome indicators. The setting of benchmarks was as important as the use of indicators. He recommended the use of the human rights framework to address issues related to goal 8, referring in particular to the OHCHR draft guidelines on a human rights approach to poverty reduction strategies. Professor Riedel concluded with some practical suggestions on how treaty bodies could include the right to development and issues relating to goal 8 in considering States parties' reports.

43. The ensuing discussion touched upon: the application of due diligence to the sphere of influence encompassed by the mandates of the World Bank and the IMF; the completely separate co-existence of two international legal regimes, i.e. trade and human rights; the need to focus more on South-South cooperation; a general reaffirmation that the human rights treaty system could be engaged in monitoring implementation of the Goals, from a right to development perspective; and a recognition that there should be more United Nations systemwide coherence in how the Goals were being addressed.

D. The right to development and its value-added to global partnerships

44. Comments from task force members during the concluding segment related to: the need to incorporate more explicit references to human rights and the right to development in existing partnerships for development and their corresponding accountability mechanisms; the possibility of using the existing international human rights treaties to monitor implementation of the Goals; the need to translate abstract human rights principles into practical policy recommendations that could be used by practitioners on the ground.

45. Observers raised issues such as: the need for the task force to focus on operational and practical implementation of the right to development (United Kingdom and Ecuador); a need for capacity-building for individual and collective development (Costa Rica); the relevance of the outcome of the WTO Ministerial Meeting in Hong Kong in December 2005 (Argentina); the need to consider the relationship between human rights and economic interests in the context of the Doha round (Islamic Republic of Iran); the need to include the private sector in deliberations concerning goal 8 (South Africa); and the possibility of including the issue of migration and its impact on development in the agenda of the task force (Mexico).

46. The Chairperson-Rapporteur concluded the meeting, expressing the hope that the constructive ideas presented, which are partially reflected in this report, would help move the right to development from the level of political commitment to practical modalities of action that would improve the lives of the millions of people for whom the right was a distant aspiration and whose well-being was the sole justification for the efforts of the international institutions engaged in this issue.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

47. The task force recognizes the importance of genuine global partnerships in realizing human rights, including the right to development, and therefore welcomes focus of the Working Group on the Right to Development on this issue.

48. The task force considers these global partnerships as part of the implementation of article 3 (1) of the Declaration on the Right to Development, which recalls that “States have the primary responsibility for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development”, and of article 4 (1), which stipulates that “States have the duty to take steps, individually and collectively, to formulate international development policies with a view to facilitating the full realization of the right to development”. Goal 8, with its focus on international cooperation, is a framework consistent with the international responsibilities contained in the Declaration.

49. The task force continued to build upon the constructive collaboration established between the human rights experts and representatives of multilateral development, trade, financial and monetary institutions to explore ways of bridging the various perspectives and experiences with a view to making practical suggestions aimed at implementation of the right to development. The task force is encouraged by continued and enhanced engagement in a genuine dialogue among its members. It also expresses its appreciation to all States, experts and other interested parties that submitted information to assist the task force in fulfilling its mandate.

50. The task force is aware that the commitments made with respect to the right to development at the highest level of Government, including the commitment in the Millennium Declaration “to making the right to development a reality for all,” are not always referred to and acted upon at the level of daily responsibility for policy-making and action relating to development partnerships. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that the formulation of the Goals and the process of monitoring progress in realizing them have been silent - or not sufficiently explicit - on human rights and the right to development. This reality has led the High Commissioner’s Special Adviser on the Millennium Development Goals, Phillip Alston, to conclude that human rights and the Goals are like “ships passing in the night”.

51. Moreover, an important feature of goal 8 - contrary to other goals - is that its primary objective and related targets focus on the adequacy of State policy and conduct relating to global partnerships, which are international cooperation instruments to enhance the effectiveness of State actions on human populations. The task force is, therefore, conscious of the particular challenge of identifying criteria for the periodic evaluation of such conduct and policy.

52. Thus, as noted by the Chair of the Working Group, there are gaps and incoherencies between the international human rights standards and the right to development, on the one hand, and the practice of development partnerships on the other. Despite the fact that the Goals in general, and goal 8 in particular, were not conceived in human rights terms, the identification of criteria for forging linkages between them is both necessary and possible. This is the spirit that animated the task force in reaching the following conclusions and recommendations, which reflect consensus among the members.

A. Conclusions

53. The task force agrees that in enhancing the effectiveness of global partnerships with regard to the realization of the right to development, it is necessary to identify and emphasize the human rights dimensions that should complement and guide such partnerships, within the existing frameworks and mechanisms.

54. The task force recalls the principles that underlie the right to development and which were affirmed by the Working Group, namely, equality, participation, accountability, non-discrimination and international cooperation.¹ It also attached particular importance to the principles of equity, as stressed by the independent expert on the right to development,² and the rule of law and good governance,³ as being central to the realization of the right to development.

55. The task force agrees that States, while adopting agreements and making commitments at international forums, such as in the context of WTO, as well as in the implementation of goal 8, remain accountable for their human rights obligations, individually and collectively. Ensuring policy coherence between a State's international human rights obligations and all its multilateral and bilateral trade and development engagements is, therefore, a central prerequisite of the right to development. In negotiating such engagements, Governments should keep in mind their human rights obligations and apply a coherent and coordinated approach. While agreements in trade liberalization may actually contribute to respect for certain rights, policy coherence requires vigilance that they do not result in denial of other rights. The task force, therefore, recognizes that States must implement, with the support of relevant international institutions and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, their resolve "to integrate the promotion and protection of human rights into national policies",⁴ including development strategies, and that these strategies should be consistent with human rights principles.

56. The task force further recognizes that goal 8 implies international responsibilities not only on the part of developed and developing States, but also of other globally powerful entities, notably international financial institutions, business corporations, the media and NGO networks. Similarly, international human rights institutions, such as the human rights treaty bodies and the High Commissioner for Human Rights, have a responsibility to work with Governments and their international trade, finance and development partners in order to ensure coherence between their undertakings in these areas and their human rights obligations.

57. In approaching the criteria relevant to assessing the effectiveness of global partnerships for development with regard to the realization of the right to development, the task force analyzed aspects explicitly mentioned in goal 8 (aid, trade, debt and technology transfer), and identified other aspects not mentioned in goal 8 (private sector and global governance), as being relevant and for which further suitable indicators may have to be identified to supplement the existing targets.

Aid

58. The task force is aware that aid is not an end in itself and that it is a necessary instrument for reaching the Millennium Development Goals where they cannot be met by market forces. While recognizing the vital importance of substantially raising the volume of official development assistance (ODA) to implement goals 1-7 and, hence, progress in the implementation of human rights, including the right to development, the task force highlights a number of issues that are relevant for developing criteria for periodic evaluation of aid. Some of these issues could, in the future, form the basis for formulating specific criteria for ODA from the perspective of the right to development. The issues concern the importance of:

- (a) Ensuring that ODA policies are guided by human rights and poverty reduction objectives;
- (b) ODA following guidelines for aid effectiveness applicable to both donor and partner countries, such as the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, and particularly of ODA being more predictable and harmonized;
- (c) Identifying, formulating, establishing accountability for and ownership of conditionalities, which have shifted from donor to partner countries, within the framework of democratic governance and respect for human rights, as well as the importance of implementing a vigorous anti-corruption programme that eliminates misuse of aid and ensures that it meets its human development objectives;
- (d) Sustaining levels of ODA, notwithstanding requirements of emergency aid and aid for purposes of national security;
- (e) Effective compliance by developed countries with their commitment to dedicate at least 0.7 per cent of their GDP to ODA, and to develop new sources of financing as recommended in paragraph 4 of the Monterrey Consensus;
- (f) Ensuring that ODA, where appropriate, has been routed through national institutions and budgets and, where appropriate, allocated directly to those areas, regions and people most need of such aid.

Trade

59. The task force welcomes the commitment in the 2005 World Summit Outcome “to governance, equity and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems” and “to open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems”.⁵ This commitment is consistent with goal 8, which added “a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction - nationally and internationally.” The task force

recognizes the importance of fair trade, understood in the sense of enlarging the opportunities for developing countries in the global economy rather than as protection for domestic producers. The necessity to create a rule-based, open and non-discriminatory trading system is a vital step in furthering the implementation of the right to development.

60. The task force agrees that incorporating a human rights framework into trade relations contributes to fulfilling the commitments of the 2005 World Summit. This would mean, for example, that Governments include relevant human rights concerns in implementing policies to eliminate agricultural subsidies or escalated protection against imports from less developed countries. This approach would also mean that the true liberalization of services, understood as “free services”, would include significant advances towards the free movement not just of goods and capital, but also of people.

61. The task force recognizes the importance of successful completion of the Doha round of trade negotiations, although it is aware of the limited expectations of the Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong for building an environment conducive to realization of the right to development. In this regard, substantial progress in the Doha round with respect to agricultural subsidies, intellectual property and public health, liberalizing trade in certain service sectors, special and differential treatment, and capacity strengthening for trade would be positive steps towards making the global trade regime more development-friendly and supportive of human rights, including the right to development. Overcoming supply-side constraints on capacity to trade is a major challenge facing developing countries, especially the least developed, which requires support targeted on aid for trade.

Debt

62. As recognized in the report of first meeting of the task force (see E/CN.4/2005/WG.2/2, para. 48), a heavy debt burden is a major obstacle for poor developing countries in achieving the Millennium Development Goals and in meeting their obligations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In this regard, the task force deems it necessary to define debt sustainability within a State context with a view to attaining a level of debt that allows countries to achieve the Goals and avoid an increase in debt ratios by 2015. This is consistent with the definition provided by Secretary-General Kofi Annan in his report “In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all” (A/59/2005, para. 54).

63. The task force agreed that poverty reduction and promotion and protection of human rights should be key considerations in finding solutions for debt sustainability. Moreover, a State’s obligation to service national debt has to take sufficiently into account national priorities of human development and poverty reduction, consistent with its human rights obligations and the need to maintain trust in the financing system.

Technology transfer

64. The task force considers that knowledge is a global public good and a key instrument for development and that transfer of technology in development partnerships should respect the right of everyone and every country to access information and knowledge and to benefit from advances in science and technology, including life-saving innovations in medicine.

65. It also recognizes that protection of intellectual property is a temporary and limited monopoly that should serve the valuable purpose of stimulating innovation through research and development, while minimizing its negative impact on individual or national access to such research and development. With respect to essential medicines in particular, the task force considers that intellectual property protections should not result in the weakening of the human right to the highest attainable standard of health, including the derivative right to essential medicines, which requires that national health systems guarantee at all times that the population receive all essential medicines in adequate amounts, of assured quality, at the appropriate time and in the appropriate dosage.

66. In light of target 17 of goal 8 on providing, in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries, the task force highlights the need for considerable work involving all partners in order to reach an agreement on the required legal amendments to the TRIPS Agreement. In this context, the task force notes with satisfaction the work of WHO and others on access to essential medicines as a human right and welcomes the 2001 WTO ruling on patent protection of drugs under the TRIPS Agreement to be interpreted as supporting the right of countries to safeguard public health and promote access to essential medicines for all. It also welcomed the WTO decision in 2003 to ease restrictions on the importation of generic drugs by the poorest countries for the treatment of rapidly spreading diseases, such as AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, and supports other WTO decisions to extend the transition period for least developed countries to provide protection for trademarks, copyright, patents and other intellectual property under TRIPS.

67. In this regard, the task force expresses concern about a growing trend towards bilateral or regional trade agreements (TRIPS Plus), which makes it increasingly difficult for States to make use of flexibilities and safeguards provided in the TRIPS and other WTO agreements, and therefore impedes the realization of a number of human rights, for example in the areas of food, health, education, culture and rights of indigenous peoples. The task force welcomes the adopted of general comment No. 17 (2005) by the Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights and considers that further reflection is needed upon the complex relationship between intellectual property and human rights with a view to identifying criteria for the periodic evaluation of this aspect of goal 8. The Working Group may undertake this reflection in light of general comment No. 17.

Other goal 8 issues

68. The task force notes that the issues of youth and landlocked and small island States are included in goal 8; however, it was not able at its second meeting to consider criteria for the periodic evaluation of these dimensions of goal 8, and left open the possibility of exploring the matter in the future.

69. In addition to the areas mentioned explicitly in goal 8, the task force considers that the following other areas of development partnerships are relevant to the effective implementation of the right to development and to criteria for periodic evaluation.

Role of the private sector

Transnational corporations

70. The task force is aware that activities of transnational corporations (TNCs) and other business enterprises can have positive effects on the development efforts of host countries. They can contribute to the enjoyment of human rights, inter alia through investment, employment creation, just and equitable working conditions and stimulation of economic growth and community development. However, the practices of some TNCs cause direct and indirect human rights violations and degrade basic social, economic and environmental standards. Host countries have a responsibility to ensure that TNCs operate in manner consistent with their domestic and international human rights obligations. The task force, therefore, considers that criteria for periodic evaluation should also examine the effects of activities of TNCs, their compliance with the human rights laws and regulations of their countries of origin and of host States, and the effectiveness of the enforcement of these laws and regulations.

Corporate responsibility

71. The task force recognizes the merit of recent efforts to introduce human rights standards into the conduct of local and foreign enterprises, such as the voluntary codes of conduct, the Global Compact and the “Norms on the responsibilities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises with regard to human rights” (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/12/Rev.1). The task force particularly notes a sharpening focus by the International Finance Corporation (IFC)⁶ on ensuring that its own policies and guidance to its private sector clients are supportive of human rights concepts, as well as assisting them in the development of tools and practical guidance on how to assess human rights risks.

72. Monitoring of progress at all levels of action will be needed on the basis of criteria of corporate responsibility and accountability developed from a human rights perspective. The task force is of the view that such criteria can be developed by those involved in financing the private sector, in cooperation with other groups and United Nations procedures that incorporate human rights standards, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the Issue of Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises.

Foreign direct investment

73. In order to achieve a significant improvement in the effectiveness of the global partnerships with regard to the realization of the right to development, the area of foreign direct investment (FDI) is of critical importance. FDI represents a highly significant level of financial flows from developed to developing countries. The latter have made important efforts to attract FDI as a tool for accelerating development. Recent analyses⁷ show that FDI carries costs as well as benefits for the host country. A rights-based approach to FDI could promote global partnerships, recognizing responsibilities for both investors and recipient countries to ensure that profit considerations do not result in crowding out human rights protection. The right to development implies that FDI actually contributes to local and national development in a responsible manner, that is, in ways that improve social conditions, protect the environment, and respect the rule of law and fiscal responsibility. The flows and impact of FDI should, therefore, be among the criteria for evaluating progress in goal 8 in the context of the right to development.

Global governance

74. With regard to institutional asymmetries in global governance, the task force identifies at least two widely acknowledged types of problems which should be addressed in the context of periodic evaluation of goal 8. The first concerns the growing imbalances in the monetary and financial systems that expose the global economy to shocks that are beyond any national capacity to control. The second is asymmetry in decision-making and norm-setting in international trade and finance. The voting structures of the World Bank and the IMF are heavily weighted towards developed countries. WTO rules give equal votes to each country but decision-making is by consensus, which, in practice, does not allow for significant agreements that would benefit many developing or least developed countries at the expense of the more developed ones.

75. It is, therefore, useful to consider criteria for evaluating the functioning of these institutions in terms of political influence on decision-making as part of an analysis of global partnerships in the context of the right to development. Reliable indicators are difficult to identify; however, progress in human rights, including the right to development, is dependent to a large extent on the additional benefits that those developing countries that have integrated human rights effectively into their development process might then derive from international cooperation in trade, investment, debt relief and aid. These benefits are the outcomes of the informal implementation of “development compacts”, and criteria for measuring them include changes in the terms of trade, debt rescheduling and forgiveness, and aid conditionality that favour countries that implement human rights, including the right to development.

Migration

76. The task force recognizes that the issue of migration and its impact on development is relevant to goal 8 and merits further exploration, given that remittances from overseas workers now constitute the highest level of financial flows from developed to developing countries and, therefore, have a significant and complex effect upon the national capacity to progress in implementing the right to development. Further, the task force stresses the impact of migration flows on human rights, including the right to development, in terms of loss of human and social capital in developing and less developed countries.

Regional initiatives

77. The task force attaches particular importance to regional initiatives for monitoring the realization of human rights, including the right to development. The task force stresses the potential value of such partnerships as a development compact, which provides for the institutionalization of an inclusive participatory process and transparent public scrutiny, which are conducive to the right to development.

78. The task force notes that 24 of the 53 African Union members have acceded to the NEPAD African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and the NEPAD-OECD Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness. The task force concludes that the APRM could be an appropriate reporting mechanism for measuring progress towards goal 8, with view to implementing the right to development. Nevertheless, to reach its right to development potential, States would

need to incorporate in the National Programmes of Action that emerge from APRM explicit criteria for capacity-building, resource allocation, monitoring and evaluation more directly aligned with the principles of the right to development.

79. The task force further acknowledges the work of the African Partnership Forum and notes the importance of linking benchmarks for progress and performance against the commitments contained in the G-8 Africa Action Plan adopted at the 2002 Kananaskis, Canada, Summit, and supported by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other regional instruments. The task force also considers that article 22 of the African Charter, the only legally binding instrument on the right to development, could provide a basis for the 24 APRM and the 29 non-APRM countries to assess periodically the realization of the right to development in the African context. In other regions, a genuine peer review process, assessing the extent to which human rights have been part of the development process, would contribute significantly to the periodic evaluation of the right to development.

B. Recommendations

80. In formulating its recommendations, the task force wishes to stress that previous working groups, the independent expert, Governments, NGOs and scholars have formulated numerous recommendations regarding general aspirations towards measures conducive to the right to development. Many of these recommendations remain valid. The task force is more concerned with identifying specific steps to be taken by development practitioners and other relevant entities already engaged in periodic monitoring of progress on the Goals. In proposing these steps, the task force wishes to avoid creating additional burdens on the monitoring and reporting entities and, therefore, focuses most of its recommendations on existing mechanisms.

81. The task force is aware of the diverse mandates, expertise and responsibilities of development actors concerned about human rights (individuals, associations, civil society, States, international institutions) and the various roles they should have in realizing goal 8. The criteria for the periodic evaluation of such a broad range of actors should contribute to a better understanding of the preferred development strategies for the realization of human rights, including the right to development. The Working Group on the Right to Development would need to apply such criteria on a continuing basis in order to achieve coherence in institutional accountability.

Criteria for assessing global partnership for realization of the right to development

82. **The task force recommends that the following criteria be applied to the periodic evaluation of global partnerships as identified in goal 8 for the realization of the right to development, whilst recognizing that specific criteria could be developed for the different issues on which partnerships exist and operate, in particular aid, trade and debt:**

(a) The extent to which the partnership reflects human rights standards and a rights-based approach to development;

(b) The extent to which the partnership respects the right of each State to determine its own development policies, in accordance with its obligation to ensure that the policies are aimed at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population

and of all individuals, on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of the benefits resulting therefrom, as required by article 2 (3) of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

(c) The extent to which partner countries have incorporated human rights into their national development strategies and receive support from international donors and other development actors for these efforts to attain positive development outcomes;

(d) The extent to which the partnership values and promotes good governance and the rule of law;

(e) The extent to which the partnership incorporates a gender perspective and values and promotes gender equality and the rights of women;

(f) The extent to which the partnership applies to itself and promotes the principles of accountability, transparency, non-discrimination, participation, equity and good governance;

(g) The extent to which the priorities set by the partnership are sensitive to the concerns and needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population;

(h) The extent to which the partnership recognizes mutual and reciprocal responsibilities between the partners, based on a realistic assessment of their respective capacities and mandates;

(i) The extent to which the partnership includes institutionalized mechanisms of mutual accountability and review, such as the African Peer Review Mechanism;

(j) The extent to which the partnership ensures that adequate information is available to the general public for the purpose of public scrutiny of its working methods and outcomes;

(k) The extent to which the partnership provides for the meaningful participation of the affected populations in processes of elaborating, implementing and evaluating of related policies, programmes and projects;

(l) The extent to which, in applying the preceding criteria, indicators and benchmarks are identified to assess progress in meeting them, and, in particular, whether the indicators used are reflective of human rights concerns, disaggregated as appropriate, updated periodically, and presented impartially and in a timely fashion;

(m) The extent to which the partnership contributes to a development process that is sustainable, with a view to ensuring equal and continually increasing opportunities for all - now and in the future.

83. In making these recommendations to the Working Group, the task force wishes to stress that all existing accountability mechanisms relating to aid, trade, debt, technology transfer, the private sector and global governance, within the context of their specific mandates, could improve the overall accountability in the implementation of goal 8.⁸ These

constitute the principal source of relevant information for the periodic evaluation of goal 8 with a view to implementing the right to development. However, the existing monitoring tends to neglect the critical human rights aspects, such as those reflected in the above criteria, and would need to be carefully and critically scrutinized in order to be useful for purposes of the right to development. As a prerequisite for effective monitoring of the above criteria, the task force urges these monitoring mechanisms to integrate relevant and measurable human rights indicators based on solid research and data, including those that demonstrate links between the promotion and protection of human rights and positive development outcomes.

84. It would be valuable to monitoring progress in realizing the right to development if the Working Group could receive periodically the elements of the existing monitoring mechanisms that are most relevant to the criteria mentioned in paragraph 82 above and thus facilitate its task in undertaking a periodic review of the global partnerships for the realization of the right to development. The principal recommendation of the task force is, therefore, that the Working Group undertake this periodic evaluation. Additional recommendations are addressed to the following bodies having responsibility for monitoring certain aspects of global partnerships of particular relevance for advancing human rights, including the right to development.

Treaty bodies

85. The relevant treaty bodies could explore the possibility of adopting suitable recommendations and guidelines for monitoring the Goals, especially goal 8, in considering States parties' reports. In this context, the relevant treaty bodies might form a small group of experts to follow up on this recommendation, hopefully with the technical support of the OHCHR.

Civil society and national institutions

86. The Working Group should encourage States to strengthen national parliamentary mechanisms and legislative bodies, as well as civil society organizations and national human rights institutions, to play a more prominent role in the implementation and evaluation of the Goals and to strengthen the human rights perspective in their evaluation, drawing, as appropriate, on the criteria listed in paragraph 82 above.

States

87. In order to build the capacity within each developing country to collect, analyse and interpret relevant statistical information, and to utilize the results for policy improvements, the task force endorses the conclusion of the Working Group at its sixth session (see E/CN.4/2005/25, paras. 53 and 54 (e)) and strongly encourages development partners to provide the necessary training and other facilities for such capacity-building.

88. The task force recognizes that Millennium Development Goals reports themselves are an important tool in increasing awareness of the significance of human rights, including the right to development, for meeting the Goals in the context of each State's

national and international obligations. The task force, therefore, proposes that all Millennium Development Goals country reports include this information, particularly on goal 8, and that this information respond to the criteria suggested in paragraph 82 above.

Monitoring mechanisms of activities of TNCs

89. **Host States, States of origin, NGOs, the IFC, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and others that monitor the effects of TNC activities on global partnerships for development should be attentive to the need for policy coherence, as mentioned in paragraph 70 above. The task force recommends that monitoring of TNCs from the human rights perspective be part of the periodic evaluation of the realization of the right to development by the Working Group and that it apply, as appropriate, the standards identified in paragraphs 71 and 72 above.**

United Nations country teams

90. **The task force recognizes the crucial role played by the United Nations country teams (UNCTs) in supporting national efforts to implement human rights, including the right to development, and to mainstream human rights into national plans and strategies. With a view to further reinforcing this process, the task force recommends that the UNCTs effectively operationalize the Statement of Common Understanding on a human rights-based approach to development cooperation developed at an inter-Agency workshop on a human rights-based approach in the context of United Nations reform held in May 2003 and endorsed by the United Nations Development Group, in its current and future actions at the country level, drawing the attention of its members and of the Government and other stakeholders to the value of applying the concepts and principles of the right to development in national development policy and international cooperation. The task force also recommends that United Nations agencies, together with their respective national counterparts and other stakeholders, hold reviews of the national Millennium Development Goals country reports and use the findings in strategic planning, as well for resource mobilization and utilization efforts, in light of the criteria proposed in paragraph 82 above.**

OHCHR

91. **OHCHR should take all necessary steps to finalize the draft guidelines on a human rights-based approach to poverty reduction strategies. It should cooperate with the treaty bodies and special procedures in incorporating into their evaluations specific reference to goal 8 and the principles of the right to development. The Office should continue to elaborate appropriate indicators and benchmarks for such monitoring and prepare regularly a compilation of relevant information from existing accountability mechanisms for periodic evaluation by the Working Group, as mentioned in paragraph 84 above.**

International financial institutions

92. **The task force encourages the international financial institutions to continue to promote good governance, accountability, transparency, the rule of law, equity, gender equality and other human rights-relevant criteria into loans, adjustment policies, and their**

relations with member States and to apply more specific human rights and right to development criteria in these relations. A revision of their governance structures and procedures to ensure better representation of developing countries would also be a positive step for the realization of the right to development. The task force recommends that they develop the internal capacity and willingness to contribute to the review recommended in paragraph 84 above.

Notes

¹ Report of the Working Group on the Right to Development on its sixth session (E/CN.4/2005/25), para. 20. In paragraph 43, the Working Group referred to the principles of transparency, equality, participation, accountability and non-discrimination.

² See fifth report of the independent expert on the right to development, Arjun Sengupta, (E/CN.4/2002/WG.18/6).

³ See Commission on Human Rights Resolution 2005/68 on the role of good governance in the promotion and protection of human rights.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 60/1, 2005 World Summit Outcome, para. 126.

⁵ Ibid., para. 36.

⁶ IFC is a member of the World Bank Group. It finances and provides advice for ventures and projects undertaken by the private sector in partnership with developing countries.

⁷ See UNCTAD, *Economic Development in Africa: Rethinking the Role of Foreign Direct Investment*, United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.D.12, 2005.

⁸ These existing mechanisms at the national level include *The Millennium Development Goals Reports* (an annual assessment of Millennium Development Goals country reports by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat), human rights accountability mechanisms (primarily the treaty bodies), poverty reduction strategies, thematic working groups organized as a part of the Millennium Development Goals strategies at the national level, civil society participation and monitoring, donor country reports. At the global level some of these mechanisms are regional Millennium Development Goals report coordinated by UNDP, regional peer group reviews (viz. NEPAD) to the extent that their mandated area of work has a bearing on the implementation of the Goals, reports of the Secretary-General, the *Global Monitoring* report (World Bank), DAC peer reviews, Parliamentarians' Implementation Watch (an initiative by the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank to promote and monitor that action is being taken to put countries on track to meet the Goals) and Social Watch.

Annex I

AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of the Chairperson.
3. Adoption of the approach to addressing the mandate, timetable and programme of work.
4. The right to development and practical strategies for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly goal 8:
 - (a) Presentation and discussion of the background paper;
 - (b) Presentation of country, regional and international experiences;
 - (c) Interactive discussions.
5. Criteria for the evaluation of Millennium Development Goal 8:
 - (a) Presentation and discussion of the background paper;
 - (b) Presentation of country, regional and international experiences;
 - (c) Interactive discussions.
6. Adoption of the report, including conclusions and recommendations.

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/1 and Add.1	Provisional agenda and annotations
E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/2	Preliminary concept note: high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development
E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/CRP.1	The right to development and practical strategies for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, particularly goal 8
E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/CRP.2	Millennium Development Goal 8: indicators for monitoring implementation
E/CN.4/2005/WG.18/TF/CRP.3	Summary of submissions
