

Millennium Development Goals

1 ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

Target: By 2015, reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day and of people who suffer from hunger.

2 ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

Target: By 2015, ensure that everywhere all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling.

3 PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN

Target: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015.

Target: By 2015, reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five.

4 REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY

5 IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH

Target: By 2015, reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio.

Target: By 2015, halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, the incidence of malaria and other major diseases such as tuberculosis.

6 COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

7 ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Target: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse loss of environmental resources; reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water.

Target: In 2000, the 189 UN Member States adhered to the Millennium Declaration and committed themselves to develop a partnership for sustainable development through policies and concrete actions aiming at eradicating poverty, encouraging development cooperation, enhancing an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system, dealing comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries, making available the benefits of new technologies.

8 DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPEMENT

“...people of faith are on the front lines of efforts to meet the needs of the world’s poorest and bridge chasms of ignorance and misunderstanding. Religious groups can also be powerful advocates in mobilizing political leaders and the public at large ...”

“.... I look to religious leaders and scholars everywhere to work hand in hand with us in that mission...”

Ban Ki-moon

(United Nations Secretary-General)

“People of faith are key

to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

They know that malnutrition, ill health, lack of education and lack of economic opportunity violate human dignity, and that there is no excuse for this situation to continue. And every day they turn this conviction into action, by caring for the neediest and most vulnerable. Religious communities have done more than any others to make us aware of the sheer scale of human suffering in our world, and of our duty to end it. Already many people of faith are standing up against poverty across the globe, and demanding that political leaders honor their promises to fulfill the basic needs of very person.

This work must continue: it is very important that religious leaders enable the voices of the poor to reverberate in the halls of power, especially as there are encouraging signs that political leaders are listening. Religious leaders and people of faith can make an important and unique contribution. As we approach the 2015 deadline to meet the Goals, we must all step up pressure on governments to scale up implementation ”

Eveline Herfkens

(Executive Coordinator for the Millennium Campaign)

Excerpts from the Messages:

Faith in Action: Working Toward the Millennium Development Goals, February 2007