



American Model United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa

Report to the Economic and Social Council on The Post-2015 MDG Agenda in Africa

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Executive Summary

The Economic Commission of Africa (ECA) identifies Post-2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a possible source of progression. In order to effectively manage the Post-2015 MDGs, the ECA considers multiple possibilities in improving these goals by recognizing the following topics: Gender Equality, Education (Primary, Secondary, and Higher), Hunger, Poverty, Environmental Security and Slowing Global Climate Change, Health and Disease, Technological Infrastructure, Good Governance, and Global Partnership for Development.

The Commission recognizes the importance of gender equality and believes education to be of use in solving this problem. The Commission encourages the further eradication of poverty by setting new Post-2015 MDGs and establishing programs to implement them. The Commission also suggests a meal program in primary and secondary school in order to encourage attendance. The Commission recognizes that hunger, poverty, and lack of public access to education are interconnected. If this body does not address hunger, students will unfortunately suffer from being left without an incentive to continue their education, and then, by extension, be disavowed of opportunities to escape poverty. The Commission is concerned with the development of technological infrastructure and discusses the lack of accessible electricity and internet connection. The Commission further concerns itself with defining the Post-2015 MDGs and discusses ways in which they can achieve these goals. The Commission discusses key issues such as environmental protection, sustainable development, proper funding, and highly suggests adequate healthcare for women, reducing infant mortality rates through access to neonatal infant care, fighting HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), malaria, ebola, and polio. The Commission recognizes that ensuring the safety, security, and overall health of the environment is an important step in maintaining Africa's developmental progress. Representatives suggest that the Commission address poor sanitation mechanisms and degraded roads, railways, and port facilities. Some representatives also suggests that the Commission adopt language that encourages Member States to adopt proper agricultural practices as a method of curbing environmental degradation. The Commission also recognizes the importance of working with Multinational Corporations (MNCs) to ensure that inadvertent or direct environmental degradation is addressed and resolved fairly and timely. The Commission also encourages Member States to adopt several past resolutions that tackle issues related to and/or stemming from poor governance practices and institutions. To ensure that these political institutions are strengthened, the Commission recommends that Member States work with states and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) within the region and/or abroad to ensure sound economic growth.

Matters calling for action by the United Nations General Assembly

Draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly

- 1 The Economic Commission for Africa recommends to the General Assembly the
2 adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I/1

3 *The Economic Commission for Africa,*

4 *Recognizing* the tremendous improvement on some, but not all, of the Millennium
5 Development Goals (MDGs),

6
7 *Affirming* the progress made at the African Regional Consultative Meeting on the
8 Sustainable Development Goals in regards to the content of the post-2015 MDGs,

9
10 *Having considered* some of the recommendations from the G-20 Rio Summit of
11 2012,

12
13 *Endorsing* the use of the 2012 Rio+ 20 Conference implementation scale in order
14 to differentiate goals between countries of various sizes, wealth and economies,

15
16 1. *Urges* states to continue fighting poverty and hunger by:

17 a) Halving the proportion of people suffering from hunger, as measured by the
18 Global Hunger Index;

19 b) Reducing malnutrition via the implementation of emergency food storage
20 funds, whereby countries that produce excess resources could donate or sell them to
21 nations in need;

22 c) Decreasing the proportion of employed people in extreme poverty, defined as
23 those earning less than \$1.25 per day, by 50%;

24
25 2. *Calls upon* struggling nations to model the successes of, among others, Ghana,
26 Morocco and Ethiopia in regards to implementing universal primary education by:

27 a) Promoting primary education by incentivizing attendance through the offering
28 of meals to students;

29 b) Increasing school retention rates through proper education and training of
30 teachers;

31 c) Providing public access to schools via better transportation methods,
32 specifically in poorer areas;

33 d) Encourages attendance of college and universities by the incentive of job
34 opportunities;

3. *Reminds* the body that although great progress has been made in terms of gender equality, further measures need to be taken, such as:

- a) Empowering women to assert control over their bodies through the education about and use of birth control;
- b) Preventing all forms of violence against women, with special importance given to rural societies;
- c) Reducing the pay discrepancy between the genders on an international scale;
- d) Urging increased focus on victims and their families affected by human trafficking;

4. *Urges* nations to employ standards for improving health care quality and infrastructure such as:

- a) Ensuring all health providers are fully staffed by increasing the number of medical staff;
- b) Allowing women to receive adequate health care by increasing the number of female health clinics in rural areas;
- c) Reducing infant mortality by ensuring access to Neonatal Infant Care (NIC) units and frequent physician checkups;
- d) Increasing accessibility to medical resources and centers for individuals living in isolated regions by improving transportation;

5. *Urges* the avoidance of preventable diseases such as Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Auto Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS), polio, malaria and Ebola through:

- a) A renewed focus on the distribution of existing preventative vaccines;
- b) Comprehensive sex education for adults, with a focus on HIV/AIDS prevention and methods of treatment;
- c) A reduction of the prevalence of the aforementioned diseases via a commitment to water safety and hygiene;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to address the pressing issue of global climate change by:

- a) Renewing a commitment to the Global Environment Facility, which aids developing nations in addressing issues related to sustainability and development;
- b) Calling upon the international community, with emphasis on developed nations, to provide sufficient and predictable financing through use of the Green Climate Fund, which has committed to achieving a budget of \$100 billion USD by 2020;
- c) Requesting that existing regional coalitions in Africa invest in sustainable green energy solutions that are relevant to their respective areas;

7. *Encourages* the improvement of and investment in technological infrastructures such as:

- a) Providing access to electricity and subsequently, internet for citizens living in rural communities;
- b) Reducing by $\frac{3}{4}$ the number of citizens living in slums without adequate sanitation or utilities;

- 80 c) Investing in commercial infrastructure such as roads, railways, port facilities
81 and electricity-generating facilities;
82
- 83 8. *Supports* a commitment to economic development with the following goals:
84 a) Make use of global trade partnerships in order to maintain positive Gross
85 Domestic Product (GDP) growth and prevent inflation of more than 25%;
86 b) Halve the current unemployment rate by the end of the allotted time for the
87 completion of the goals;
88 c) Increase the use of high yield crops and meet the demand for food production
89 while urging respect for native and pastoral farming and protection of the environment
90 from over use and toxins;
91 d) Strengthen the United Nations (UN) Statistical Commission's Committee for
92 Coordination of Statistical Activities, which standardizes data analysis on economically
93 sustainable development;
94 e) Recognize the effects that demographic change has had on population trends
95 and projections in Africa's national, rural and urban development strategies and policies;
96
- 97 9. *Endorses* a commitment to the practices of good governance via the
98 implementation the following anti-corruption measures:
99 a) The incorporation of anti-corruption education by African States into national
100 education programs for government officials, as well as collaboration with Non-
101 Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to accomplish these goals;
102 b) Implementation of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering
103 (FATF) and its clauses;
104 c) Establishment of governmental transparency practices through international
105 cooperation methods;
106
- 107 10. *States* that the deadline for the above goals is year 2030.

Draft resolution I/2

The Economic Commission for Africa,

108 *Emphasizing* the need to recognize the transitioning demographics in relation to
109 population trends and projections, as well as our national, rural and urban development
110 strategies and policies,
111

112 *Recognizing* the efforts of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) tackling the
113 issue of hunger, such as "Feed My Starving Children",
114

115 *Calling upon* the international community to renew its commitment to the Green
116 Climate Fund,
117

118 *Celebrating* successful accomplishment in Millennium Development Goal
119 (MDG) 1, eradicating extreme poverty, of the MDGs,
120

121 *Deeply concerned* that starvation is still a major obstacle to further economic and
122 social development of developing nations,

124 *Recalling* Economic Commission for Africa resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013
125 and previous relevant resolutions,

127 *Recognizing* that without a stable governmental mechanism for funneling
128 international private investment, funding fails to translate into public works,

130 *Emphasizing* that the need for detailed regional programmatic guidelines on post
131 2015-MDGs is central to their future success and implementation in developing countries
132 on the African continent,

134 *Noting* the fundamental need for interstate cooperation over established economic
135 goals, such as high agricultural gains to meet international food security standards, to
136 ensure universal application of the provisions of the post 2015-MDGs,

138 *Reiterating* that recent gains in cooperative poverty reduction measures, through
139 the establishment of commodity exchange hubs, was achieved as a result of efforts made
140 by Benin and Ethiopia,

142 *Noting* that the longevity of poverty reduction programs tailored to African
143 countries continue to be questioned, despite some existing success in small sectors of
144 national economies,

146 *Emphasizing* the importance of scalable guidelines, based on detailed information
147 concerning regional and state-level demographics, the amount of revenue that can be
148 feasibly reallocated for public works projects, and its cultural context surrounding
149 potential public health based activities,

151 *Recalling* the draft paper presented at the United Nations Conference on
152 Sustainable Development in 2012, in which sustainable development goals and focus
153 areas were created to set more achievable targets in poverty eradication, gender equality,
154 sustainable agriculture, and sustainable cities,

156 *Considering* that existing benchmarks established for the post 2015-MDGs are
157 vague with regards to national development priorities when cooperating over issues like
158 childhood disability and education in remote areas,

160 *Noting* that countries differ significantly in their achievement of the post 2015-
161 MDGs due to a host of intrastate factors,

163 1. *Urges* all Governments to continue maintaining balanced economic efforts in
164 people-centered development, environmental sustainability, national resources
165 management, and disaster risk management for the purpose of supporting developing

166 countries;

167
168 2. *Further reaffirms* this body's support of the implementation of the Financial
169 Action Task Force on Money Laundering's recommendations by all Member States;

170
171 3. *Urges* the international community to focus on empowering women globally
172 by:

173 (a) Encouraging access to equal education and opportunities for men and women;

174 (b) Discussing additional facets pertaining to the issues of family planning and
175 contraception for men and women;

176 (c) Emphasizing the need to expand national laws on violence against women, as
177 well as enhancing the enforcement of existing statutes;

178 (d) Cooperating with Non Governmental Organizations involved in the issue,
179 such as World Health Organization (WHO), Silence, and United Nations Women;

180
181 4. *Recommends* intergovernmental development organizations like United Nations
182 Children's Fund allocate more funds to providing immediate food aid;

183
184 5. *Proposes* that primary schools gain priority in receiving said food aid, in order
185 to enhance primary school enrollment and reduce child hunger;

186
187 6. *Urges* Member States to create free meal plans in secondary education systems
188 to improve the primary-to-secondary school transition rate and to encourage students'
189 participation in academics;

190
191 7. *Calls upon* the international community to reaffirm its commitment to the
192 Green Climate Fund;

193
194 8. *Encourages* Member States to work in tandem with the United Nations
195 Environmental Program on reforestation and other environmental and biodiversity
196 protection initiatives;

197
198 9. *Recommends* the creation of an independent agency within the United Nations
199 Environmental Program with the authority to incentivize energy-commodity
200 Multinational Corporations to contribute to and/or preserve the environmental health of
201 the host Member States;

202
203 10. *Urges* the development of improved internet infrastructure throughout the
204 African continent by:

205 (a) Reducing barriers to the expansion of internet service providers with the
206 ultimate goal of creating universal access across Africa;

207 (b) Encouraging the international community to provide African states with
208 refurbished internet-capable devices;

209 (c) Working with NGOs like Internet.org to increase affordability and efficiency;

- 211 11. *Proposes* the creation of an educational campaign to combat the lack of
212 awareness regarding practices that contribute to the spread of disease;
213
- 214 12. *Recommends* the establishment of disease monitoring systems and related
215 information sharing mechanisms;
216
- 217 13. *Encourages* greater participation of the African medical community in
218 international research projects of organizations like the WHO;
219
- 220 14. *Further recommends* that the scientific communities of countries that are too
221 unstable for the presence of national laboratories cooperate with countries that do utilize
222 national laboratories;
223
- 224 15. *Supports* the creation of a commission to work with the WHO's
225 "Immunization, Vaccines, and Biologicals" division with the goal of providing
226 vaccinations to African citizens;
227
- 228 16. *Encourages* Member States to further collaborate with the commission for the
229 purpose of spreading awareness of the value of vaccines;
230
- 231 17. *Urges* international organizations and medical NGOs to collaborate with
232 hospitals in Africa on proper protocol for neonatal care;
233
- 234 18. *Proposes* the creation of a commission under the oversight of the Regulation
235 and Trade division of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) with the express goal
236 of advancing the possibility of the creation of an intra-African free trade agreement;
237
- 238 19. *Calls upon* Member States to politically pressure developed countries to
239 uphold their commitment to foreign aid as outlined in the original Millennium
240 Development Goals Declaration;
241
- 242 20. *Recommends* the creation of a sub-committee under the Social Development
243 division of the ECA with the explicit goal of coordinating between member states and
244 NGOs on issues like education provision and elimination of hunger;
245
- 246 21. *Emphasizes* the need to work with the Raspberry Pi Foundation to provide
247 more affordable access to computer technology with the goal of improving technological
248 literacy;
249
- 250 22. *Urges* Member States to adhere strictly to the provisions of the 2013 draft
251 report of the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015
252 Development Agenda and to take effective measures to increase after-school programs
253 through the implementation of new universal primary education standards, the
254 implementation of community-based gender equality seminars, and the education of local
255 farmers on crop rotation and proper fertilizer use;

256
257 23. *Calls upon* developing countries to assess their existing governmental
258 methods realistically on the basis of child mortality, primary school attendance records,
259 and United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs good governance
260 standards and to communicate those needs to the United Nations Development Board in
261 order to ensure compliance with ascribed development goals;

262
263 24. *Notes* the concern expressed by the African Union High Level Committee on a
264 Common African Position on the post-2015 development agenda in its 2013 report
265 regarding the failure of governmental accountability and transparency with regards to
266 public revenue going towards social works programs like public vaccination clinics or
267 environmental sustainability workshops;

268
269 25. *Urges* all Member States to strongly oppose the co-optation of non-
270 governmental organization funding intended for the 2015-Millennium Development
271 Goals;

272
273 26. *Commends* the United Nations Development Board for its efforts in
274 monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions,
275 and in particular for:

276 (a) Inviting Member States concerned about meeting development goals to voice
277 said concerns in forums like the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable
278 Development (Rio+20),

279 (b) Arranging a series of informal panels during the 2014 Open Working Group
280 on International Development with the main states that are off-track on meeting the
281 MDGs by 2015;

282
283 27. *Requests* the United Nations Development Board continue its efforts to
284 monitor the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions in
285 full compliance with the 2014 Report of the Independent Expert Advisory Group on the
286 Data Revolution for Sustainable Development.

Draft resolution I/3

The Economic Commission for Africa,

288 *Noting with concern the significant gender inequality that persists on the African*
289 *continent,*

290
291 *Acknowledging* the connection between women's rights, environmental
292 sustainability and the Millennium Development Goals, particularly after 2015;

293
294 *Reaffirming the Cairo Consensus acknowledging reproductive rights as a*
295 *fundamental human right,*

297 *Recalling the Beijing Conference on Population and Development and the 1995*
298 *Fourth World Conference on Women to reaffirm that reproductive rights are indeed a*
299 *fundamental human right,*

300
301 *Acknowledging United Nations Treaty Monitoring Bodies (TMBs) decision that*
302 *the issue of reproductive rights falls within its purview,*

303
304 *Recalling the change in fertility patterns are associated with girls and women's*
305 *education, availability of reproductive health information and services, upholding and*
306 *protecting reproductive rights, opportunities for integration into the labor market and*
307 *socioeconomic development,*

308
309 *Considering how many women work in agricultural faculties and gather water,*

310
311 *Conveying the importance of the conclusions drawn by the Population Reference*
312 *Bureau on the relation of water toxins to increased malaria susceptibility in pregnant*
313 *women and their children,*

314
315 *Emphasizing rapid population growth exacerbates pressures on ecosystem and*
316 *natural resources, demobilizes the management of land and water resources, and*
317 *degrades the chances of achieving a more equitable distribution of energy, particularly in*
318 *urban areas,*

319
320 *1. Urges Member States to take concerted actions to promote women's rights, in*
321 *specific regard to its interconnectedness with reproductive rights, population dynamics,*
322 *health and environmental sustainability;*

323
324 *2. Encourages support for the expansion of education, primarily for women and*
325 *girls, while also supporting educative programs on the topic of gender inequality;*

326
327 *3. Recommends the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to consult*
328 *individual member states to devise policy and legislative actions concerning women's*
329 *reproductive rights reflecting the current situation and needs of each nation;*

330
331 *4. Requests the TMBs to oversee and publish annual reports on respective nations*
332 *adherence to the policies and legislative actions implemented through the above*
333 *recommendation;*

334
335 *5. Encourages African Nations within the United Nations Development*
336 *Programme to pursue completion of the following goals:*

337 *(a) Increased education for women and girls;*

338 *(b) Gender equality programming and family planning;*

339 *(c) Adoption of environmentally sustainable technology, specifically pertaining to*
340 *improved access to clean water;*

341 *(d) Distribute proper equipment for women and men working with hazardous*

chemicals for their own safety, as well as proper education on said equipment's use,

6. Requests the United Nations Environmental Program to update its Global Resource Information Database to include Women's Environmental Impact Index;

7. Further Requests that the Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health, using local venues, such as health centers, primary education facilities, and local markets, to distribute educative materials on the risks of toxic and polluted local water sources, such as the impact of toxins on:

- (a) Childbirth mortality rate;
- (b) Breastfeeding;
- (c) Increased disease susceptibility.

8. Urges all Member States to continue maintaining balanced economic efforts to meet the six pillars of the Common African Position passed by the African Union which includes:

- (a) Structural economic transformation;
- (b) Science, technology, and innovation;
- (c) People centered development;
- (d) Environmental sustainability;
- (e) Peace and security;
- (f) Finance and Partnership;

9. Further urges the utilization of gender mainstreaming in all aforementioned policies and programs prior to their implementation,

10. Recommends the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme work closely to identify and recommend solutions to environmental deficiencies caused by energy-commodity based Multi-National Corporations that have a unique effect on employment opportunities for women,

11. Requests the United Nations Environmental Programme to update its Global Resource Information Database to include the Environmental and Gender Index, calculated according to a weighted 100 point scale based on 27 criteria pertaining to gender and the environment.

12. Also urges the strengthening of measures regarding halting the expansion of human trafficking for the purpose of alleviating exploitation of persons in developing countries, particularly female victims, with civil retribution for human trafficking victims.

Background

In September of 2000, 149 heads of state came together for the 55th session of the General Assembly and decided to designate that session to be called “The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations.” Together they unanimously adopted The Millennium Declaration. It was a set of goals for increasing the well-being of people around the world. It set clear and decisive goals for individual countries to work for along with the help of the international community. The aim was to try and expand the positive aspects of globalization to all countries, rich and poor.

There were eight goals set up to improve the lives of people around the world. The Millennium Development Goals are: (1) Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger; (2) Achieve Universal Primary Education; (3) Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women; (4) Reduce Child Mortality; (5) Improve Maternal Health; (6) Combat HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and Other Diseases; (7) Ensure Environmental Sustainability; and (8) Develop a Global Partnership for Development. The deadline to regroup and reevaluate these goals is fast approaching, as the deadline is 2015.

The progress that has been made was only made possible through the hard work and dedication of the many people and countries that have been involved in making these dreams a reality for so many people. Even though much progress has been made there is still much work to be done. Additionally, further research into the causes and solutions for these issues is required. Africa is on-track for only three out of eight of these goals, which include: universal education, promoting gender equality and empowering women, and combating HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria and other diseases. Of those goals not met, the challenge of food security remains a key issue for the Continent.

The Economic Commission for Africa has stated an interest in previous sessions including the following topics in the Post-2015 Development Goals: Emphasizing Economic Growth and Structural Transformation, Re-orienting Goals Toward Domestic Initiatives, Prioritizing Social Inclusion and Incorporating the Sliding-scale Goal Setting Method proposed by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in 2012 (also known as Rio + 20).

The Rio + 20 created a method of determining the new development goals on the amount of income coming into a country. The Rio+ 20 proposition supported the idea that it would be in the best interest of the countries involved to have a staggered goals based on each country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and other important financial factors. This is of special importance for Africa as despite being the world's second fastest growing region, especially since 2005, it has still been unable to meet its 2015 targets.

This body feels it is important to state on the progress that has been made on each individual goals.

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.

Target: The African continent is on track to accomplish its poverty and hunger reduction goals despite continued food, fuel, and financial difficulties.

On Track Countries: Egypt, Gabon, Guinea, Morocco, Tunisia, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Togo, Zimbabwe, Algeria, Benin, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Mali, South Africa, Cabo Verde and Tunisia.

Despite these successes there is still high income inequality throughout the region.

Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education.

Target: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.

The amount of children in primary education has risen exceptionally, however, the completion and the quality of the education is still a problem.

On Track Countries: Algeria, Egypt, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Ghana, Morocco, Tanzania and Zambia.

Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women.

Target: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.

Africa is narrowing gender disparity in primary school over the past two decades. Africa performed better than Southeast Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and West Asia. Where problems do exist, it appears to be largely caused by attitudes of caregivers at the family level.

On Track Countries: Gambia, Ghana, Mauritius Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Botswana, Ethiopia, South Africa, Angola, Mozambique and Seychelles.

Goal 4: Reduce Child Mortality.

Target: Reduce by two-thirds the under-five mortality rate between 1990 and 2015.

The success of this goal has varied across the continent. While North Africa was able to reduce its child mortality rate by half, Sub-Saharan Africa remains behind schedule and is expected to not reach the 2015 Millennium Development Goal.

Recommendations to solve the problem of child mortality rate include scaling up proven, cost-effective and high-impact interventions; systematically reducing bottlenecks in health systems and improving social determinants of health. High-impact interventions include keeping newborn babies warm, encouraging early, exclusive and continued breast-feeding, expanding coverage of insecticide-treated bed nets and using oral rehydration therapy for diarrhea. Additional interventions include vaccinations, vitamin A supplementation and deworming.

On Track Countries: Egypt, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Rwanda, Seychelles and Tunisia

Goal 5: Improve Maternal Health Care

Target: Reducing the maternal mortality ratio by three-quarters between 1990 and 2015.

While Africa is making great strides in this goal, maternal mortality is still disproportionately high due to the inability of health systems to deal effectively with complications, especially during and shortly after childbirth, as well as a shortage of skilled obstetrician healthcare providers.

On Track Countries: Equatorial Guinea, Egypt, Liberia, Libya, Mauritius, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Tunisia, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Rwanda, South Africa and Swaziland.

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS

Target: Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

Southern, East, Central and West Africa remains the region most severely affected by HIV/AIDS with nearly One in 20 adults living with HIV and accounting for 69% of the people living with HIV worldwide. However, overall Africa has dropped from 5.9% in 2001 to 4.9% in 2011 in adult prevalence.

On Track Countries: Cote d'Ivoire, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Comoros, Namibia, Rwanda, Algeria, Cape Verde, Egypt, Libya, Mauritius, Sao Tome, and Principe, Sudan and Tunisia.

Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

Target: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs; reverse loss of environmental resources.

The progress of this goal has not been equal across the continent. While the majority of the continent is doing well with indicators for CO2 emissions, forest cover is contracting. There is therefore a need to develop, improve and implement sustainable forestry policies with accompanying effective monitoring systems. Additionally, unless water and sanitation interventions are intensified in the coming years, the continent may not meet these targets.

On Track Countries: Egypt, Gabon, Morocco, Nigeria, Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Comoros, Ethiopia, Libya, Mali, Mauritius, Namibia, and Swaziland.

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for develop

Targets: A) Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, nondiscriminatory trading and financial systems; B) Address the special needs of the least developed countries; C) Address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing states

The financial setbacks that have occurred in western nations has limited the amount of

investment that could be used for development in African nations.

Consideration of Regional Conference on Post-2015 MDG Agenda in Africa

382 At its 2014 session, the Commission considered agenda item 1, Post-2015 MDG Agenda
383 in Africa.
384

Deliberations

Deliberations Subsection 1 - Gender Equality

The body stressed the importance of gender equality in order to maximize the full potential of developing nations. In order to meet this goal the body recommends increased access to education for women. The body supports increased awareness of family planning services including access to contraception and expansion of sexual education programs.

Resolution 1.1 addressed the concerns of female empowerment and gender equality, resolving to keep the 2013 MDG of gender equality. The resolution continued to support the prevention of violence against women, with a special importance in rural societies, as well as reduced pay discrepancy between genders on an international scale.

Resolution 1.2 focused on implementation of community-based gender equality seminars in order to help educate the public on the major issues concerning gender inequality, as well as cooperation with NGOs, such as the World Health Organization (WHO), on sexual education to improve the health of both men and women.

Resolution 1.3 had a strong focus on fixing a majority of the problems in the workplace as well as education with women, focusing on the improvement of education, especially to women, and better regulation of pesticides and other dangerous/harmful conditions present in the agricultural workplace for women.

The body held discussion on expanding and enforcing laws to support equal opportunities for women. Concerning gender equality, a proposal to include gender mainstreaming in Resolution 1.3 was made by Member States to insure that the proposed action took positive steps in gender equality, for both women and men. Gender mainstreaming is taken from the Report of the Economic and Social Council for 1997. In the report, gender mainstreaming is defined as the process of a designated body to assess the implications of any policy, planned or programmed action on the state of men and women.

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DOC:339

Deliberation Subsection 2 - Primary, Secondary, and Higher Education

The Commission also discussed the role of advancing secondary and tertiary education in the development of African societies. Some delegations proposed the idea of setting the necessity of continuing to emphasize the importance of the aspect of job opportunities in tertiary education in the goals declaration. Each and every representative recognized that to build a strong and prosperous Africa, Member States must commit to expanding access to primary, secondary, and tertiary education. As suggested in both Resolutions 1.1 and 1.2, representatives opted to incentivize attendance to primary schools by offering free meals to students. In addition, certain Member States highlighted their success with education reforms by offering techniques they used to other nations that perhaps are struggling with this issue.

Another way the Commission suggested to tackle the issue was to develop better transportation methods to expand public access to schools, whether primary or tertiary. Another concern from several representatives was the fact that existing benchmarks established for post 2015-MDGs are vague when it applies to issues such as childhood disability and education in remote areas. Several representatives who ultimately included this concern as language within Resolution 1.2 felt these were issues that should be addressed promptly and equitably. As a whole, Representatives of the Commission felt expanding education across the board for young and older people among African Member States is an important step in addressing development deficiencies present in these countries.

Deliberation Subsection 3 - Hunger

In confronting the problem of hunger, the body suggested several ideas to promote a meal plan in primary and secondary school to encourage primary school retention and give incentives for school attendance.

Resolution 1.1 sought to keep the current MDG goal of elimination of hunger by setting the goal to half the proportion of people suffering from hunger and also by reducing malnutrition via the implementation of emergency storage funds.

Resolution 1.2 recommended food aid from intergovernmental development organizations, such as the United Nations Children's Fund, as well as a primary and secondary education meal plan to improve both primary school retention and primary to secondary school transitions.

There were very little conflicts on the clauses of the passed resolutions that concerned itself with the major issue of hunger in Africa, as a majority of the body believed that steps indicated from the resolutions were reasonable steps in resolving the current issue of famine in Africa.

Deliberation Subsection 4 - Poverty

The body proposed several solutions to try and combat the issue of poverty currently in Africa. According to the report of the 2013 MDGs made by the ECA, stating that poverty

has surpassed its goal of 20.6% for 2015 in 2010. In order to further encourage the progress towards the eradication of poverty, several resolutions were passed in order to set new goals for the 2015 MDG's and programs in order to implement them.

Resolution 1.1 allowed for the renewal of the previous 2013 MDG for the "Eradication of Hunger and Extreme Poverty" and set the goal to lower Africa's current poverty levels by an additional 50% by 2030.

Resolution 1.2 further emphasized the programs to reduce poverty by establishing commodity exchange hubs similar to those present in Benin and Ethiopia.

Several other nations, such as Ghana, discussed current programs in place have allowed for progression in the eradication of extreme poverty throughout its nation, and sought to give aid and support to countries unable to properly combat poverty, such as the Central African Republic.

Deliberation Subsection 5 - Health and Disease

The body suggests that the post 2015 MDGs on health and disease set goals related to the full staffing of health providers, allowing women to receive adequate health care through creating more women's health clinics in rural areas, reducing infant mortality through access to neonatal infant care, and fighting preventable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, TB, polio, malaria, and ebola.

In order to achieve the standards for improved healthcare and disease prevention, the body has suggested the creation of an educational campaign with the goal of educating local communities about how disease is spread and basic preventive measures that can be taken. It is suggested that the Economic and Social Council work with NGOs currently working on improving health and disease prevention in Africa, like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Global Alliance for Africa, to implement these educational programs. Furthermore, some representatives suggest that a new commission be established where member states work in coordination with the WHO and other NGOs to educate local populations about the importance and value of vaccines.

In addition, representatives have brought forward the importance information monitoring and sharing best practices in improving the current state of healthcare and disease prevention in the African Continent. Increasing the current capacities to monitor information related to healthcare, the creation of projects like the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Village Project in Madagascar can be used to supply new and professionally refurbished medical equipment to African hospitals. In addition, representatives have suggested that the improvement of technological infrastructure and information sharing will improve healthcare by:

- 1) giving hospitals the ability to keep detailed medical records,
- 2) giving local hospitals the capacity to transfer medical records amongst themselves to provide information on a patient's medical history, allowing better medical care, and

3) improving accessibility of medical facilities and resources for isolated communities by focusing on transportation.

Finally, multiple representatives have recommended that academic cooperation and coordination between medical research, project and organizations in developing countries and medical professionals in Africa will help integrate the African perspective on these issues. In order to do this, it was recommended that the African medical community be provided the opportunity to participate in world research programs. As a result, the African medical community will increase their knowledge and skills as well as provide a new perspective to these research projects. In spirit of the cooperation and communication mentioned above, representatives have also recommended that international organizations, like the World Trade Organization (WTO), and NGOs to work with African hospitals to improve prenatal care.

Deliberation Subsection 6 - Environmental Security and Slowing Global Climate Change

At first, two separate resolutions were being drafted that tackled two separate issues Defining the Post-2015 Millennium Development Goals and Achieving the Post-2015 Millennium Development Goals. Representatives deliberated on a host of issues related to environmental protection, sustainable development, and properly funding relevant United Nations organizations. Certain representatives suggested increasing the budget of the Green Climate Fund to around \$100 billion, in order to combat the immediate and long-term effects of climate change. In addition to increasing funding to the Green Climate Fund, certain representatives highlighted the need to renew Member State commitments to the Global Environmental Facility. Representatives also highlighted the need to address a lack of investment in proper infrastructure development among African countries.

These representatives indicated that a lack of proper investment in that sector yields unfortunate outcomes, such as: lack of equitable access to commercially available electricity and/or internet, poor sanitation mechanisms, degraded roads, railways, port facilities, etc. Representatives did express concern over issues regarding proper agricultural practices, and whether Member States would be required to increase funding and/or recruit technical experts to assist with developing more proper techniques. These concerns were ultimately addressed as part of a select number of clauses integrated into Resolution 1.1, dealing with farming techniques, access to technical skill building, and ensuring consistent and fair financial benefits per farmland. As a whole, Resolution 1.1 sought to define the overarching goals for Post-2015 Millennium goals, and as a result, a significant number of concerns and/or suggestions expressed by the Representatives of the Commission were ultimately included within the body of the document.

Congruently, Resolution 1.2 sought to complement the effectiveness of Resolution 1.1 by articulating methods, techniques and recommendations that would assist in tackling some, if not all, of the aforementioned issues. Representatives who assisted with and/or ultimately sponsored the resolution included a number of clauses that addressed concerns

over the relationship between Multinational Corporations (MNCs) and the environment. A number of Representatives suggested that the United Nations Environmental Programme play a more integral role in addressing environmental concerns present in African countries; in particular, representatives suggested either increasing funding to that United Nations organ to combat deforestation, or creating an subsidiary independent agency within it that is charged with protecting resource extraction hotspots.

Resolution 1.3 addressed environmental issues facing women in the agricultural sector, notably the impact of toxins on women's health concentrations such as childbirth mortality rate, breastfeeding, and disease susceptibility. The resolution notes the damaging effects of pollutants and toxins that women encounter while working in agricultural facilities. In order to accurately address problems regarding women and the environment, the resolution suggests the inclusion of Women's Environmental Impact Index in The United Nations Environmental Program's Global Resource Information Database.

Deliberation Subsection 7 - Technological Infrastructure

Representatives have established the overarching goals concerning the development of technological infrastructure to first provide access to electricity, followed by Internet access. To help improve the reach of electricity, representatives have suggested an increase in investment and the development of roads, railways, and port facilities. In addition, the reduction of citizens who are living in slums without access to utilities should be decreased by 75%.

According to 2011 estimates, about 13.5% of the African continent currently has reliable Internet access. However, as the United Nations publication Africa Renewal states, Internet infrastructure and access are essential for future economic development, specifically related to roads and energy. In order to improve the current Internet infrastructure in Africa, representatives in the Economic Commission for Africa suggest the reduction of the current barriers of entry for Internet Service Providers (ISPs). The goal would be to establish an environment conducive of ISP expansion, increasing Internet access throughout the African continent.

Providing Internet access is the first step towards increasing Internet access in the African continent. However, the representatives have also suggested that access to refurbished electronic devices is an attempt to increase internet access. Through various ICTs, NGOs, like Computer Aid International, and the creation of programs similar to the ICT Village Project in Madagascar (sponsored by international institutions including the Economics and Social committee, the United Nations Development Project, and the World Bank). This program's report suggests, in addition to improved infrastructure and education, increasing the flow of refurbished devices, including PCs and telecommunications devices, to improve Internet access.

Deliberation Subsection 8 - Good Governance

Representatives of the Commission highlighted their concerns over whether

governmental institutions within African countries would have the ability to address some, if not, many of the issues highlighted during the session. Representatives of the Commission suggested the body adopt clauses that encourage Member States to recall several past resolutions, reports, and conferences tackling the very issues that purport poor governance. Resolution 1.1 suggested very particular goals that Member States could act upon, with intangible and tangible resource support from various United Nations bodies. These goals included, but were not limited to: reducing extreme poverty in Member States within Africa, expanding health-care options for women, combating disease, and expanding access to beneficial technologies. Representatives who sponsored and/or contributed to Resolution 1.1 recognized good governance begins with Member States achieving positive increases in their overall development portfolio. These positive increases, as indicated in numerous deliberations, can only be achieved if Member States work to address some, if not, all of the aforementioned goals. To be clear, these sentiments, goals, and recommendations were simultaneously addressed in Resolutions 1.2 and 1.3.

Deliberation Subsection 9 - Global Partnership for Development

In order to put the African continent in the best situation possible for achieving the post-2015 MDGs the body has outlined in Resolution 1.1, representatives recommend a commission under the ECA be established specifically related to Regional Integration and Trade. The purpose of this commission would be to negotiate an African free trade agreement to assist economic growth within the region. This idea is reiterating and encouraging ideas previously pursued in the continent in projects like the Trifoliate Free Trade Area (FTA), encompassing three current regional economic trade bodies, and the African Union's goal of establishing a continent wide free trade agreement by 2015. In addition, multiple delegates suggested there be pressure put on the developed countries to fulfill their commitments outlined in the MDGs, helping African countries make additional progress towards achieving the goal of the MDGs and the upcoming post-2015 MDGs.

387

Action taken by the Commission

388 Resolution 1.1:

389 Passed - 21/3/6

Oppositions:

Zambia:

The delegation of Zambia was insulted by the body due to not being invited nor consulted on resolution I/1.

Abstentions:

South Africa, Mali and Kenya.

South Africa:

DOC:339

South Africa abstains from resolution 1.2 because they feel that the deadlines set within were not discussed enough. The previous MDG deadline should have been considered more before the new deadlines were set.

Mali:

Mali was absent for most of the deliberation process. Mali didn't feel comfortable to fully participate in the voting process.

Kenya:

The delegation of Kenya was absent for most of the deliberation process on the 2nd resolution. Kenya didn't feel comfortable voting on an issue when they weren't there for deliberation.

Amendment A proposed by Egypt was adopted by consensus with only the delegation from the Democratic Republic of Congo voting to abstain. Amendment B proposed by Malawi was adopted by consensus unanimously. Amendment C proposed by Uganda was not adopted by consensus, with oppositions from the delegations from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Gabon, and Malawi, Egypt, Chad, Sierra Leone, and Cameroon voting to abstain. Amendment D proposed by Botswana was adopted by consensus, with only the delegation of Gabon abstaining. Amendment E proposed by the Democratic Republic of Congo was adopted by consensus with the South Africa abstaining.

Resolution 1.2:

No amendments added

Opposed:

Zambia

Zambia :

The delegation of Zambia was insulted by the body due to not being invited nor consulted in the resolution I/2, therefore voted against resolution 1.2.

Abstentions:

Liberia, Nigeria, Somalia, South Africa and Sudan.

Resolution 1.3

Opposed:

Sierra Leone, Uganda, Zambia and Central African Republic.

Central African Republic:

The delegation of Central African Republic felt that it didn't contribute to overarching goals of MDG, placing emphasis on one particular goal.

Abstentions:

DOC:339

Cameroon and Democratic Republic of Congo

Amendment A was contested but passed with one abstention with rights. Liberia abstained and wished to explain because it had nothing to do with women's rights. Amendment B was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment C was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment D was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment E was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment F was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment G was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment H was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment I was a friendly amendment and passed automatically. Amendment J was contested and passed with a vote of 25 in favor, zero opposed and four abstentions. Amendment K was contested and did not pass with a vote of six in favor, seven opposed and 14 abstentions.

Adoption of the Report

390 The report was adopted by consensus with zero abstentions. A motion for reconsideration
391 of the report passed without opposition. Amendment A was proposed by Cabo Verde and
392 passed by consensus zero abstentions. The report was adopted by consensus as amended
393 with zero abstentions.