

# DRAFT ACCRA DECLARATION

## ON ACHIEVING THE MDGS IN CRISIS SETTINGS

21 July 2010

We, the representatives of 12 crisis-affected countries<sup>1</sup>, including representatives of the g7+, met in Accra, Ghana on 19-20 July 2010 to discuss and reflect on the opportunities for, and obstacles to, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in countries affected by conflict, armed violence and fragility, and vulnerable to the disruption caused by human and natural disasters, climate change and the global food, fuel and financial and economic crisis.

We acknowledge that crises and the resulting disruption to economic growth and livelihoods, unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, depletion of development assets and capacities, and the breakdown of the rule of law, justice and security are a major threat, not only to making new progress towards the MDGs, but even to the sustenance and consolidation of the hard-won gains towards the MDGs. Indeed, countries affected by violent conflict, armed violence, fragility and high vulnerability to disaster will find it extremely difficult to fully achieve the MDGs by 2015, as recognized in the Dili Declaration – A New Vision for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding.

We are concerned that persistent inequality and a lack of progress towards the MDGs may increase the risk of conflict and armed violence. In parallel, weakened capacities, limited resources and damaged infrastructure in the wake of conflict increases vulnerability to natural disaster by undermining our capacity to prepare for and respond to human and natural disasters and their socio-economic impact.

Determined to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, we call on Heads of State and Governments participating in the MDG Review Summit to adopt specific measures that:

- I. **Recognize the specific challenges posed by conflict, armed violence, fragility and disasters.**
- II. **Support a focused and accelerated effort in countries affected by conflict, fragility, armed violence and disasters by:**
  - Focusing increased attention on conflict resolution, peacebuilding and statebuilding priorities to create the necessary foundations and enabling environment to achieve the MDGs;
  - Developing inclusive economic growth strategies that promote employment, social justice, livelihoods, and effective delivery of basic services, particularly for the youth and women, and reduce inequalities and the marginalization of minority groups;
  - Strengthening participation of women in peacebuilding and statebuilding processes and prioritizing protection of women and children from armed conflict and violence;
  - Strengthening national capacities and institutions to prevent and manage the impact of internal and external shocks such as natural, human-made and climate related disasters;
  - Anchoring these priorities in national development plans that are developed through inclusive national consultative processes and rigorous analysis and oriented to achieving the MDGs.

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<sup>1</sup> Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Somalia, Sudan and Timor Leste

**III. Strengthen international partnerships to address these needs, demonstrate progress and enable improved international support by:**

- Engaging in processes such as the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding to advance these efforts and review progress;
- Developing statistical capacities and systems for data collection, analysis and dissemination to inform evidence-based policy making and allow measurement of progress, as well as for improved resource management;
- Delivering an international action plan for improved and better coordinated international support at the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in South Korea in 2011;
- Urging development partners to provide predictable, timely, risk-tolerant and more flexible resources to conflict affected and fragile states, including through the Peacebuilding Fund and climate financing; additional resources are required for peacebuilding and statebuilding priorities, including infrastructure development, and to facilitate transition;
- Strengthening regional integration and processes for mutual cooperation and dialogue to facilitate South-South collaboration and peer learning, including through the g7+.

We are confident that with focused interventions and scaled-up resources in the priority areas identified above we can accelerate and sustain progress towards the MDGs. We count on the support and commitment of the United Nations system and development partners to deliver on our collective promise to achieve the MDGs.

Accra, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2010