

Tel: +27 11 313 3672
Fax: +2711 313 3684
Email: wisemann@nepad.org
Website: <http://www.nepad.org>



NEPAD Secretariat
P. O. Box 1234
Midrand
HALFWAY HOUSE
1685
SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

4 February 2005

Prof Jeffrey D Sachs
Special Advisor to the Secretary General
On the MDGs and
Director of Millennium Project
One United Nations Plaza, DC1-2164
NEW YORK, NY 10017

FAX NO. 091 212 906 6349

Dear Jeff

Congratulations on the quality and relevance of the UN Millennium Project Report – Investing in Development – A Practical Plan to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

It is a revolutionary document. The analysis of the reality in African countries is both honest and thorough. It gives all those interested and committed to creating a better world, a good insight.

The recommended actions by African countries on the one hand and the rich countries on the other are sensible and reasonable. African countries have to take action to improve governance and transparency, above all, take responsibility to eradicate corruption and to strengthen own capacity to drive own development. On the other hand, the Developed countries must increase their support; otherwise the gains will not be sustainable. Above all, they must honour commitments already made. The credibility of the international community, especially the rich countries, is at stake. There is a compact to support developing countries to achieve the MDGs through many international forums.

In the case of Africa, we have a compact with international communities through NEPAD. Through NEPAD, the African leaders and the African people have made a commitment to end conflicts, improve democracy and good governance and to do their best to create conducive conditions for economic growth and sustainable development. The rich countries through the G8

African Action Plan and the international community through the Implementation Plan of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Monterrey Consensus made a commitment to support the implementation of the NEPAD programme. However, up to now there has been no increase in development assistance flows to Africa. As a result, the majority of African countries are in danger of not meeting the MDGs.

The UN Millennium Project reports especially its recommendations that developing countries prepare MDG based poverty reduction strategies that would ensure that the MDGs are reached in ten years and that rich countries commit to make this happen. This recommendation is most welcomed by NEPAD as it is in line what the African leaders want to achieve through NEPAD. In addition, we are particularly pleased with the reference made to regional economic integration. There can be no sustainable development in Africa unless interconnectivity and trade among African countries have improved. This is again a direct response to a cry from the African countries that the international community has been ignoring.

We endorse the recommendations of the report and we will work with you for their endorsement and implementation by the international community.

Yours sincerely

PROF WISEMAN L NKUHLU
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
NEPAD SECRETARIAT