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Posted on Tue, Jan. 18, 2005

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS ON FIGHTING POVERTY

A U.N.-sponsored report outlines how to meet U.N. goals of tackling poverty, hunger and disease by 2015:

- Poor countries should develop national strategies to meet the U.N. goals, including moves to strengthen good governance and promote human rights.
- International donors should recognize at least a dozen "fast-track" countries for a rapid scaling-up of development assistance in 2005, on the basis of their good governance.
- Developed and developing countries should jointly launch, in 2005, quick actions to save millions of lives. These should include free mass distribution of anti-malaria bed nets and anti-malaria medicines for children, eliminating fees for primary school and essential health services, providing anti-retroviral drugs to 3 million AIDS patients, and providing free fertilizer for small farmers with poor soil by the end of 2006.
- Rich countries should increase development assistance from 0.25 percent of gross national income in 2003 to about 0.44 percent in 2006 and 0.54 percent in 2015 to support the Millennium Development Goals. Rich countries should reach the U.N. target of giving 0.7 percent of gross national income by 2015, to support the millennium goals as well as other development priorities.
- Rich countries should open their markets to developing country exports through the Doha round of global trade talks that should be completed no later than 2006.
- International donors should mobilize support for global scientific research and development to address the needs of the poor in health, agriculture, natural resource and environmental management, energy and climate. The report estimated that about \$7 billion a year will be needed for this research by 2015.



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