



17th January 2005

Dear Professor Sachs, Jeff:

DATA welcomes the U.N. Millennium Project's new report "Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals." Your team has provided a plan for all of us — rich and poor countries alike — who have agreed to the Millennium Goals. We knew these goals were ambitious when they were written, and rightly so. It should be no surprise that we must now be ambitious in setting our course to achieve these goals.

DATA is especially pleased to see focus in the report on those actions that can be taken now to achieve real results and demonstrate the fact that these goals are not impossibilities. There are simple strategies that can be scaled up to save lives; there are countries with sound policy environments ready to scale up their own efforts to alleviate extreme poverty. And you make a clear case that this is not only morally right — it is also in our collective security interests to create a better, safer world.

There's a great deal of work to do as we turn the tide on AIDS and extreme poverty. But we've all signed up, and it's time to get to work. This document is a key roadmap. We have ten years to reach our destination, a decade for aggressive development. Now let's put our foot on the pedal. Some progress has been made since 2000, but not enough. In 2005 we need to accelerate.

A historic compact, with all developed nations offering to do their fair share to support all developing nations that are truly fighting corruption and poverty, as they strive toward these landmark goals: that is our goal.

Best wishes,

Jamie Drummond
Executive Director