



Women's Environment & Development Organization

Quick Guide to the 2010 MDG Summit

United Nations High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals

New York, NY, USA

20 - 22 September 2010 (Monday to Wednesday)

Schedule:

Monday to Wednesday, 20-22 September

Six High-Level Plenary Meetings: two each day, 9am-1pm and 3pm-9pm (10am-2pm and 3pm-6pm on 22 Sept)

Six Round-table discussions: two each day, 10am-1pm and 3pm-6pm (2pm-5pm on 22 Sept)

Partnership Events: dates and times vary (see selected list in this document). WEDO will be involved in a GEAR Event on September 23-24 and will also lead another event (details to come).

MDG Summit Focus:

The MDG Summit shall focus on accelerating progress towards the achievement of all the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, taking into account the progress made with regard to the internationally agreed development goals, through a comprehensive review of successes, best practices and lessons learned, obstacles and gaps, challenges and opportunities, leading to concrete strategies for action.



High-Level Plenary Meetings (HLPMs):

- The HLPMs are divided into 210 five-minute speaker slots distributed over the six meeting sessions.
- The current list of speakers for the meetings is available in room NL-1033.
- Speakers include representatives from major UN bodies (the opening ten slots), high-level representatives of Member States, regional groups (five slots), and one slot each for NGO, civil society, and private sector representatives.
- The final hour of the last HLPM will be devoted to closing the HLPM.

Round-table Sessions:

- The six round-table sessions will have at least 50 seats each and will be co-chaired by two Heads of State or Government.
- For each of the six round-tables, there will be active participation of four representatives of NGOs and civil society.



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- The six round-table meetings will have the overarching objective of “Making it happen by 2015”, and each one will focus on one theme, as follows:
 - Round-table 1: Addressing the challenge of poverty, hunger and gender equality.
 - Round-table 2: Meeting the goals of health and education.
 - Round-table 3: Promoting sustainable development.
 - Round-table 4: Addressing emerging issues and evolving approaches.
 - Round-table 5: Addressing the special needs of the most vulnerable.
 - Round-table 6: Widening and strengthening partnerships.
- The round-table sessions will be closed to the media and the general public. Accredited delegates and observers will be able to follow the proceedings of the round-table sessions via a closed-circuit television in the overflow room.
- Summaries of the deliberations of the six round-table sessions will be presented orally by the chairpersons of the round-table sessions or their representatives during the concluding plenary meeting of the High-Level Plenary Meeting.

Civil Society and NGO participation at the Round Tables and HLPMs:

- NGO and civil society speakers will be chosen by the President of the General Assembly with consideration of the recommendations and criteria submitted by his [Task Force](#).
- The Task Force submitted speaker nominations to the President of the GA on July 30th.

Official input reports for the consultations leading to the MDG Summit:

- Report of the Secretary General: “[Keeping the Promise: a forward-looking review to promote an agreed action agenda to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015](#),” 12 February 2010, A/64/665
- [Millennium Development Goals Report 2010 / 2009](#)
- [2009 report of the Millennium Development Goals Gap Task Force](#)

[\[additional MDG reports here\]](#)

Preparatory Process and Additional Inputs:

- [General Assembly Interactive Sessions](#) – series of sessions featuring presentations and statements by the UN system, governments, academia, civil society, and the private sector, March-April 2010.
- MDG Summit Outcome Document – consultations/negotiations.
 - [Draft structure for the Outcome Document](#)
 - [“Zero-draft Outcome Document”](#)
- [General Assembly Hearings with Civil Society](#) – Informal interactive hearings with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, 14-15 June 2010.
 - [Logistics and Background Note](#)
 - [Advance Unedited Summary](#)



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- [Global online civil society consultation](#), UN-NGLS.
 - [Executive Summary](#)
 - [Toward a Global MDG Breakthrough Plan Report](#)
- [MDG Website Space](#) – for civil society position papers and statements, hosted by UN-NGLS/UN Millennium Campaign.

“Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on Civil Society Engagement in the MDG Summit Process,” UN-NGLS:

- **Are there still opportunities to influence the negotiations process?**
 - Negotiations are currently on-going, with many changes already brought to the “Zero Draft” version. The co-facilitators had originally indicated that they had no objections for NGOs with UN accreditation to observe the negotiations. However, some Member States have since voiced objections, so the negotiations are likely to be considered closed to NGOs.
 - NGOs are of course encouraged to lobby governments outside the negotiations on specific issues. The language contained in the GA President’s summary of the Hearings is organized in the form of specific recommendations. As an official document of the Summit preparatory process, it might provide a useful advocacy tool for NGOs to use with governments in the current negotiations.
 - The NGLS/UN Millennium Campaign MDG summit website also provides a space for civil society organizations to post their position papers and statements. Many organizations have already done so. In order for NGLS to post any substantive position paper/statement, please send an electronic version to: npls@unctad.org (subject: MDG summit).
- **What are the plans for civil society participation at the Summit itself?**
 - The aim of the negotiators is to produce a final draft before the end of the July or at least the summer. It is not unconceivable that some major points of contention would be left for senior ministers or Heads of State and Government to come to an agreement at the Summit, but civil society influence on these matters would be more effective “upstream” by raising these issues at the level of capitals ahead of the Summit.
 - During the three-day Summit itself, there will be only very limited opportunities for civil society to speak in the Plenary sessions and the thematic Roundtables. This is due to high security concerns related to the



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expected presence of a very large number of Heads of State and Government at this event.

Participation as observers at the MDG Summit:

If you wish to attend as an observer, due to increased security messages necessary to accommodate the high-level meetings of the General Assembly, access to the UN premises will be severely restricted. You are encouraged to follow the proceedings on [UN Webcast](#). Representatives of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC can be issued a courtesy pass with access to the fourth floor balcony viewing gallery in the General Assembly hall for the plenary sessions on 20, 21 and 22 September.

- Passes are reserved for representatives of ECOSOC-accredited NGOs only.
- Secondary passes for these seats will be made available from the DESA NGO Branch from Thursday, 16 September, 9:00 am onwards.
- You must have a valid annual pass of an ECOSOC-accredited NGO and must present yourself in person.
- One representative per organization will be issued.
- There will be no pre-registration for these observer seats. First come first served.
- Secondary passes must be used by the person applying and cannot be used by another representative.

Partnership Events:

Events by UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, Permanent Missions, the private sector and other partners are expected to be held in and around the United Nations in New York before and during the Summit (High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 65th Session of the General Assembly) on the Millennium Development Goals, 20-22 September 2010.

[List of Events](#) – This preliminary list of events will be updated as necessary.

Highlights from the List of Events:

MDG Partnership Events (a) In the UN Building			
Date/Time/Room	Topic	Sponsor	Contact
17 September			
10:00 to 12:00 pm CR 5 NLB	Three Recent Reports on Poverty: Presentation and Discussion	UNRISD with DESA and Chronic Poverty Research Centre	Yusuf Bangura +41 22 917 29 57 bangura@unrisd.org



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1:15-2:30 CR5 NLB	Accelerating progress towards the MDGs: Gearing the law to maximize impact on health and sustainable development and on addressing climate change in the SIDS	IDLO and Grenada	Patrizio Civili (212) 867-9707 pcivili@idlo.int
20 September			
10:00 to 1:00 pm CR 5 NLB	Partnerships for MDGs Achievement	UNITAR	Soukeyna Fall (212) 963-9196 falls@un.org
10:00 to 12:30 pm CR 6 NLB	Mother and Child Healthcare	International Red Cross and selected Members States (tbc)	Fantaye Assebe (212) 338-0161 Ext. 205 ifrcny@un.int or delegation.newyork@ifrc.org
1:15 to 2:30 pm CR 5 NLB	Smarter partnerships to move beyond aid: Illustrating the potential of MDG 8	Egypt and OECD	Misaki Watanabe +33 1-4524-76 26 misaki.watanabe@oecd.org
5:00 to 7:00 pm CR 7 NLB	Progress of the World's Women: Gender Justice and the MDGs	Denmark	Maria Nilaus Tarp (917) 582-9843 Henriette Beck Andersen (917) 650-9527 henand@um.dk
21 September			
11:00 to 1:00 pm CR 6 NLB	Climate Vulnerability and Its Impact on MDGs	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and UNDP	Mohammad Khorshed A. Khastagir (212) 867-3434, (646) 464 5228 khastagir@gmail.com
1:15 to 2:30 pm ECOSOC NLB	Ecosystems, Climate Change and MDG Achievement: Scaling up local solutions to grow the Green Economy of the Poor	UNEP	James Sniffen (212) 963-8094 sniffenj@un.org
22 September			



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8:00 to 9:45 am CR 6 NLB	Accountability and transparency to reach the MDGs: Key mechanisms and initiatives	UN-DESA and Brazil (tbc)	Thomas Boehler (917) 367-9452, boehler@un.org
10:00 to 1:00 pm or 3:00 to 6:00 pm CR 6 NLB	Women, Peace and Security	Switzerland	Christine Crevoisier (212) 286-1540, ext. 1120 christine.crevoisier@eda.admin.ch
1:15 to 2:30 pm CR 6 NLB	Turning evidence into practice: Learning from what works to accelerate MDG progress	UNDP	Stephanie Dunstan (212) 906-6931 stephanie.dunstan@undp.org
2:00 to 4:00 pm ECO NLB	Launch of the Joint Action Plan on Women and Children's Health	EOSG	Silva Bonacito (917) 367-3556 bonacito@un.org
MDG Partnership Events (b) External Venues			
Date/Time/Room	Topic	Sponsor	Contact
20 September			
3:00 to 6:00 pm Millennium Plaza Hotel	Launch of two reports: --Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness in Africa 2010, and --Africa's Cooperation with New and Emerging Development Partners	OSAA,ECA and OECD	Carol Sakubita (917) 367-5710 sakubita@un.org
23 September			
1:15 to 2:45 pm TBA	Localizing MDG 7: A Key to Success	Centre for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC), Columbia University	Clare Sullivan csullivan@ei.columbia.edu



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Submission of proposals:

- You are invited to submit information on your proposed event using the [online form](#) (hosted by CSO Net) created for this purpose. The information you provide will enable information sharing among partners and with the public on all planned partnership events associated with the Summit and facilitate a coordinated approach.
- The information on your proposed event will be published in [the list](#) and calendar (from August onwards) on [Partnership Events](#) page. You are encouraged to update this information using the online form, as and when necessary.
- A compilation of partnership events, together with a brief description of outcomes and any commitments, based on the submissions using the online form, will be issued at the conclusion of the Summit.

Availability of rooms:

- Please note that there is only **very limited availability** of rooms for partnership events in the United Nations Building during the days of the Summit. Therefore, if you would like to organize an event in the United Nations Building, you are highly encouraged to plan your event for the week preceding the Summit, i.e. from 13 to 17 September 2010.
- **Requests for rooms in the United Nations Building should be submitted to the Meetings Management Section, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM), telephone: 212-963.8114; fax: 212-963.7405.**
- The submission of your proposed event and its inclusion in the list of proposed events does not imply, in any way, that a room will be allocated for the event, either within or outside the United Nations Building.
- For any other assistance with partnership events please write to: hlpmevents@un.org.

GEAR at the MDG Summit:

GEAR is planning a 2-day event for September 23 -24. The first day will be for civil society to plan and strategize about engaging with UN Women and shaping its agenda. The second day will be for the GEAR working-group to determine what our role should be in the coming months. Details forthcoming.