

# A Global Call to Action Against Poverty



# Bangladesh Planning Paper

Revised Draft  
13 March 2005

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(Revised Draft, 13 March 2005)

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# A Global Call to Action Against Poverty Bangladesh Planning Paper

Version 0.4 - 13 March 2005

*"We will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to which more than a billion of them are currently subjected. We are committed to making the right to development a reality for everyone and to freeing the entire human race from want."*

UN Millennium Declaration  
8 September 2000

## **Introduction:**

On November 24th last year a national consultation brought together a tremendous number of organisations to look at the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and how they might apply to Bangladesh. There was strong interest among the participants to take this issue further and a steering group was formed with representatives from different sectors. The steering committee held its first meeting on February 8th to discuss possible follow-up actions on the MDGs and campaigning in concert with the newly formed Global Call to Action on Poverty (G-CAP). The meeting requested that a strategy paper or concept note for the campaign in Bangladesh be developed and a sub-committee was formed for this task.

This document was prepared in response to that request although it is neither a strategy paper nor concept note. It is instead a planning document to facilitate the Steering Committee's decisions on both the general shape and the specifics of the campaign. It outlines 10 key questions or areas for the Steering Committee to consider in the process of creating the campaign.

The content for this paper and its appendices were taken from a number of sources, including: the minutes of the first general meeting, the initial deliberations of the Steering Committee, issues raised during a meeting the following week with Ms. Erna Witoelar (the UN Special Ambassador for the MDGs in Asia and the Pacific), as well as a number of documents related to G-CAP, the MDGs, Bangladesh's PRSP and I-PRSP, and other papers on poverty eradication and development in Bangladesh.

This paper has not tried to suggest any final decisions for the campaign but instead provides an initial menu of options for the Steering Committee to choose from. Not all the issues need to be decided right away and some decisions could evolve during the course of the campaign. Many of the points and issues raised will be familiar for most participants through their own work and experiences, and thus, this paper is no more than an attempt to simplify and advance the formation of the campaign.

The 10 key questions outlined in this paper are:

1. What type and scale of campaign do we want?
2. What do we want to achieve?
3. What is our strategy?
4. How does the campaign relate to other national and international efforts?
5. What positions shall we take?
6. What specific activities shall the campaign undertake?
7. Who could be involved in the campaign?
8. How do we organise ourselves?
9. What are possible problems and how can they be addressed?
10. What do we call ourselves?

## **Ten Key Questions:**

### **1. What type and scale of campaign do we want?**

Before starting the process of planning the campaign, it would be important to have a general consensus on what type and scale of campaign or platform we would like to have. The level of contribution to the campaign will vary from organisation to organisation and person to person, but if we agree on its rough parameters we can work more cohesively together.

There is a vast range in the possible types of campaigns we could have. Some of the possibilities include:

- forum for sharing information on the activities of different coalitions and networks as they relate to the MDGs
- symbolic participation in the key advocacy events chosen by G-CAP (e.g. G8 Summit, Millennium+5 Summit, Rights Action Week)
- joint schedule of national and international advocacy events during this year to bring greater attention to the issue of poverty
- combination of campaign events with research and policy lobbying to increase the chances of government action
- systematic campaigning and advocacy efforts to create significant pressure on governments to start acting to end poverty
- mobilisation and organisation of civil society into a powerful force to compel governments to do the most they can to end poverty, and to add to governments' efforts with direct anti-poverty actions

Among these different types of campaigns, we could further decide on the extent we will be organising campaigning activities at the different levels of our country, namely:

- national
- divisional
- district
- upazila
- union
- village

Another important issue will be the expected timeframe for our campaign. At present G-CAP has a formal mandate from its partners for this year, but it would likely be extended. Will our campaign be just for this year, or will we be working together until 2015 or beyond to achieve our goals?

## 2. What do we want to achieve?

Within the general framework of the type and scale of campaign we want, it will be essential for us to have a common agreement on what we want to achieve. In the end, what would we like to say we have accomplished through our efforts?

At the most fundamental level could be concrete and tangible goals such as:

- accelerating the process of poverty eradication in Bangladesh
- accelerating achievement of other MDG targets in Bangladesh
- achieving other key goals we have identified

We may also decide to set goals for the process of our campaign, such as:

- increasing the synergy and cooperation among civil society groups working towards Bangladesh's development
- increasing the political space for civil society in the achievement of the MDGs

With the goals that we do set for the campaign, it would be useful to break them down into more specific targets for different timeframes (if we do decide to have a campaign lasting longer than this year). A possible division of timeframes could be:

- from now until the Millennium+5 Summit in September
- before the next general election (presumably in October 2006)
- during the term of the next government
- by 2015

Some of the more specific targets for the campaign may come out naturally from the policy decisions we make and the advocacy goals we set when addressing Question 5.

## 3. What is our strategy?

Through the advocacy and networking work we do, most of us have a good idea of different general strategies that can be effective in advocating for change. What we'll need to decide is how much emphasis to give in this campaign to different strategies and tactics, such as:

- organising high-profile public events
- mobilising and uniting a wide range of NGOs
- mobilising people and organisations at the grassroots level
- increasing media attention and general public awareness about poverty
- conducting and publishing research to highlight specific issues
- drafting policy proposals in support of our goals
- directly lobbying politicians and decision-makers on different issues
- creating a background climate in support of government action

- empowering people to take direct action on issues affecting them
- mobilising resources to support a scaling-up of efforts

Directly linked with our general strategy is the question of who we target for what type of interventions. Some of the key targets for advocacy efforts could include:

- national government
- national political parties
- local government
- local politicians
- NGOs and other civil society groups
- hard-core poor
- general public in Bangladesh
- general public internationally
- bilateral donor agencies
- International Financial Institutions (IFIs)
- UN agencies in Bangladesh
- the media

#### 4. How does the campaign relate to other national and international efforts?

At a national level it will be crucial for the campaign to decide how best to operate and interact within a very active civil society and with a number of well-established sectoral coalitions. Some of the questions that could be considered include:

- What is the potential added value of a campaign bringing together these different groups? What synergy could be developed? What are the potential risks or costs?
- What should be the role of the campaign in relation to existing coalitions? How can those coalitions benefit from the campaign?
- How will the campaign be accountable to its members? (Please also see section 8 on how we organise ourselves.)
- What is some of the ongoing advocacy work which should not be duplicated? How could the campaign best support such work?
- When can a common anti-poverty banner be useful for sectoral coalitions or individual organisations?

At the international level, there is the opportunity of joining the Global Call to Action Against Poverty (G-CAP). Through participation in G-CAP, we may be able to both benefit from a wider international campaign and contribute significantly to it.

Some of the possible benefits of relating to the international campaign could include:

- synergy and shared energy between countries in the North and South
- increased solidarity among countries in the South
- improved international climate for poverty reduction efforts, which may influence both our government and international donors
- improved standing and leverage in lobbying with our government
- much greater leverage in lobbying with bilateral and multilateral donors in Bangladesh

- potential for shared learning among the countries involved in the international campaign
- information and alerts on important international policy developments

Conversely, a strong and successful campaign in Bangladesh could help the international campaign in a number of ways, including:

- addition to the "critical mass" of the campaign
- stronger lobbying of developed countries
- moral support for other developing countries
- sharing of experiences and ideas from Bangladesh
- contribution to the decision-making process of the campaign
- mobilisation of international media through events held in Bangladesh

After India and China, our country has the third largest number of poor people in the world, so our participation would likely be a great boost for the global campaign.

Some of the issues for the Steering Committee to decide include:

- Should we formally join the Global Call to Action Against Poverty?
- Do we have any reservations about the international campaign that should be addressed?
- How shall we be represented in the international campaign?

Within South Asia, a number of national campaigns are also taking root and it would be useful to strengthen our coordination with them. Some of the issues that could be considered include:

- What should be our system of coordination within South Asia?
- How do we build on existing SAARC civil society initiatives?
- What should be our common priorities for lobbying with SAARC?
- How can we best support each other's campaigns?

## 5. What positions shall we take?

In order to campaign effectively, we will need to be as clear as possible about where we stand on the issues at hand. On the international level, G-CAP has adopted a minimal common position to facilitate the maximal possible participation. The core demands of G-CAP are:

- trade justice
- debt cancellation
- a major increase in the quantity and quality of aid
- national efforts to eliminate poverty and achieve the Millennium goals that are sustainable and developed and implemented in a way that is democratic, transparent, and accountable to citizens

Within Bangladesh, however, we are free to decide whether we want to adopt this type of approach or whether we want to develop a more specific and forceful agenda on the issues most important to our country.

One of the important underlying issues is our position with respect to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). A number of participants have commented on the need to have locally owned goals adapted to our reality and priorities. This seems to be a point of consensus so it is likely we will want to go through a process of determining what those goals should be, how we should measure and monitor them, or whether we should take a more holistic approach.

As a starting point, however, it will be useful to look at the MDGs and the issues surrounding them. A summary of the goals is listed below:

### **The Millennium Development Goals**

- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
- Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
- Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
- Goal 5: Improve maternal health
- Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
- Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

A number of specific targets and indicators are linked to these goals and are sometimes taken as the goals themselves. The full text of all goals, targets and indicators are included for reference as Appendix III. Details of international and national progress towards the MDG targets can be found in Appendices IV and V. A brief summary of the history of the MDGs is included as Appendix VI.

The Millennium Declaration and the UN Secretary-General's "Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration" also includes the following goals related to human rights:

### **The Millennium Human Rights Goals**

- Goal 1: To respect and fully uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and strive for the full protection and promotion in all countries of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights for all;
- Goal 2: To strengthen the capacity of all our countries to implement the principles and practices of democracy and human rights, including minority rights;

Goal 3: To combat all forms of violence against women and to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

Goal 4: To take measures to ensure respect for and the protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies, and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies;

Goal 5: To work collectively for more inclusive political processes, allowing genuine participation by all citizens in all our countries;

Goal 6: To ensure the freedom of the media to perform their essential role and the right of the public to have access to information.

In planning our campaign, we should be aware of both the plus and minus points of the MDGs. Some of the criticisms of the MDGs have been:

- The MDGs are just another set of promises to break--we've been through this routine many times before.
- These goals were set without any national or local consultation. This process promotes a donor-led agenda at the cost of local leadership and community-based participation.
- The goals completely ignore non-measurable qualitative aspects of development.
- The MDGs are a bizarre case of statisticians dictating global policy,
- The MDGs clearly spell out the responsibilities of poor countries while avoiding any time-bound targets for the "partnership" with rich countries.
- The MDGs make more sense as a guide for donors to monitor the impact of their aid-giving efforts, as the goals were originally intended to be.
- Since 1996, most of these goals were supposed to be global targets for which donor agencies would be accountable, both to developing country partners and to their own tax-paying citizens. Now, after years of minimal progress, instead of looking at why they hadn't invested much towards their own goals, they simply want the responsibility dumped on developing countries.
- The MDGs largely duplicate the PRSP process and just create confusion.
- The targets of the World Bank, IMF, OECD, UN Secretariat and G8 have taken precedence over the collective commitments made by 147 national leaders and 189 governments at the Millennium Summit.
- The targets are merely a distraction from the real issues of power, economic justice, and social equality. They serve only to keep us entertained while powerful economic and political forces shape our world.
- The target of halving poverty by 2015 sends the unmistakable message that there is some compelling reason why national governments, with or without international assistance, cannot eradicate absolute poverty by that time.
- Several examples in recent history have shown that governments can achieve significant change in a matter of years, not decades, when there is

a clear vision and sufficient political will. The 2015 target indirectly limits the political will and offers little in the way of vision.

- The MDGs are "Minimal Development Goals" that encourage a minimal effort instead of a maximal or even an optimal effort by governments. Governments are being praised for doing just enough to reach the 2015 target when they could and should do much more.
- The "straight-line reduction" approach being encouraged alongside the goals is almost certain to miss the 2015 targets as it doesn't take into account the likelihood of economic downturns, disasters or other potential crises between now and 2015.
- Calling for poverty reduction is fundamentally different from working towards poverty eradication. The reduction approach lends itself to the World Bank/IMF GDP-growth strategy and avoids the fundamental social and economic changes needed to eradicate absolute and relative poverty.
- The global poverty reduction target has shoved aside the commitment made at the 1995 World Summit for Social Development to reduce inequalities and eradicate absolute poverty by a target date specified by each country.
- The timetable for the goals legitimises the denial of basic socio-economic rights, such as the right to education, social security, decent employment, and an adequate standard of living.
- The goals are a step backwards from the legally binding commitments made by the government in several treaties that our parliament has ratified, including especially the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- The goals encourage us to forget the commitments made at a number of high-profile international summits during the 1990s and 2000, which if implemented would leave little scope for poverty and human suffering.
- The selection of the MDGs ignores the other promises in the Millennium Declaration, including the human rights goals and the agenda for peace and security.
- The numerical indicators of the MDGs are becoming viewed by governments as an end in themselves instead of benchmarks towards the more fundamental and holistic goals.
- The MDGs have conspicuously ignored or downplayed critical development issues such as global warming, population control, child labour and good governance.
- The process encourages further dependence on international aid, which may directly or indirectly decrease national spending on poverty reduction and development.
- The 2015 targets is quite popular with governments because they won't be accountable for achieving them.
- This is all just a numbers game with little connection to reality.
- Really, what kind of poverty reduction goal aspires to having over a billion people in absolute poverty in 2015?

On the other hand, some of the points in favour of the MDGs include:

- The MDGs can be a common platform for dialogue and engagement within a country and also between international actors.

- The MDGs are not the end of the process, just a good beginning.
- The MDGs represent the minimum commitment of both national governments and the international community.
- The MDGs provide countries with a solid starting point from which they can advance to more ambitious targets based on their national circumstances and political will.
- The goals were proposed by the World Bank, IMF and OECD, so these institutions can also be held accountable for helping countries achieve the minimum targets.
- If not the targets, at least the broad goals of the MDGs are based on the Millennium Declaration endorsed by 189 countries, including 147 Heads of State, and thus they represent an historic international consensus.
- The commitments of rich countries may not be time-bound, but they are clearly and unequivocally set out in the MDGs.
- Our government has enthusiastically endorsed these goals and so can be put under strong national and international pressure to achieve them.
- National governments may not be accountable for the ultimate 2015 targets, but they can be held accountable for achieving the portion due during their time in office.
- The MDGs can be a path for achieving the economic and social rights which governments have committed to in principle, but left for "progressive achievement" in practice.
- Until we can motivate enough political will for the genuine fulfilment of economic and social rights, the MDGs may be the next best choice.
- The goals are at least a step up from the GDP growth-only focus of the past.
- Despite their limitations, the MDGs do help put the focus on absolute poverty and other key development issues. The goals are simple, clear and easy to communicate to a wide audience.
- The selection of goals does cover a wide swathe of development issues, and countries are free to fill in the gaps with additional local goals and priorities.
- The goals focus on achieving progress and monitoring results instead of debating abstract points of principle. Their clear emphasis is on implementation and impact.
- A strong united movement of governments, donors and civil society in support of the MDGs could make an enormous difference in the world.
- In the end, if the MDGs help improve the lives of ordinary people, does it really matter whether they are good or bad in theory?

With the above information as a starting point, we could consider the questions:

- What is our position on the MDGs as they apply to Bangladesh?
- What is our position on the MDGs as they apply to the world?
- What should our government do about the MDGs?

As there appears to be a consensus on the need for locally owned goals, we may want to address the following issues:

- Should we have a set a national development goals, i.e. Bangladesh Development Goals (BDGs)?
- If so, how should we agree on them and what should they be?

- Should there be time-bound targets and indicators for them? If so, what should they be?
- Should there be locally developed and owned development goals for individual districts, upazilas, unions, or villages? If so, how should they be established?

We may also consider the possibility of taking a more holistic approach to this issue by setting out a clear, overall vision for Bangladesh's development. This approach could be taken as an alternative to having specific time-bound development goals, or as a foundation from which the goals spring forth.

Once this core issue is resolved, we may also want to look at developing positions on some of the more specific issues, such as:

- Bangladesh's PRSP
- trade and globalisation
- debt cancellation
- international aid
- human rights
- governance
- other key issues of concern to us

On the issue of Bangladesh's PRSP, there is fortunately already an admirable effort by SUPRO to bring together the input of civil society organisations and to organise local consultations to develop a national position on the plan. On the other issues there may need to be an in-depth process of discussion, analysis and consensus-building to determine our position on each of them. As this may not always be an easy task, it may be worthwhile to have a more open architecture in which we try to agree on as much as we can, and then agree to disagree on whatever is left.

Once we do have clear positions on most of the key issues, it would be useful to re-fashion them into an advocacy agenda, including:

- specific set of core demands of the government
- specific demands of other national or international actors
- key advocacy targets for specific time periods (e.g. from now until the Millennium+5 Summit, before the next election, during the next government's term, before 2015, etc.)
- key messages to communicate to decision-makers and the public

## **6. What specific activities shall the campaign undertake?**

The heart of the campaign will be the events and activities that we organise. Below a few of the possibilities for national or international events are outlined, although additional ideas would also be welcome. From these various possibilities the Steering Committee could fix a calendar of events and a programme of activities that are sufficient for us to achieve our desired advocacy goals, while still being manageable for us to organise.

At the international level the Global Call to Action Against Poverty has identified 3 key dates and events for united global action. They are listed below, along with some initial notes on how they could be adapted to the situation in Bangladesh.

### **July 1<sup>st</sup> - G8 Action**

- March to the G8 Embassies in Gulshan (perhaps accompanied in solidarity by foreign nationals of those countries). Presentation of a charter of demands to G8 countries. Presentation of white flowers to remind them of their commitment to the MDGs. Organisation of mass letter-writing campaign to G8 countries. Demand for completion this year of all ongoing debt cancellation processes. Demand for a freeze until 2015 on all other bilateral and multilateral debt payments from low income countries, with the funds saved to be used for achieving the MDGs. Press briefing on the transfer of wealth from low income countries to the richest ones. Slogan of "Stop taking from the poor!". Critique of the repackaging of debt repayments as new international aid. (Note: In 2002, low income countries received \$27 billion in aid while shelling out \$39 billion in debt servicing; Bangladesh alone gave \$915 million in debt repayments.)

### **September 10<sup>th</sup> - Millennium+5 Summit**

- Encircling of Sangsad Bhaban with a white banner filled with people's demands for poverty eradication. Encircling of local administration buildings with a banner of local demands. Skipping a million meals in Bangladesh to protest poverty and growing inequality in the country. Strong international demand for global warming to be halted and reversed by 2015 if Bangladesh and other vulnerable countries are to have any hope of achieving the MDGs. Meetings with Ambassadors to push for demands on trade, aid, and debt cancellation. Release of independent report on the MDGs in Bangladesh (possibly a few days or weeks before the Summit). Release of national or international report card on progress (with A or A+ for excellent results, B for good efforts, C for being on track to meet the Millennium Declaration targets, D for being on track to meet the MDG targets, and F for failing to meet the minimum standards).

### **December 10<sup>th</sup> - WTO Ministerial Meeting**

- Release of civil society charter of demands for trade to benefit the poor (possibly a few days before). Earlier hosting of the Asian WTO caravan as it passes through Bangladesh. Direct participation of civil society delegation at WTO-related events in Hong Kong. Meetings with Ambassadors on national and international trade justice demands.

In addition to these three core events, G-CAP has also identified a number of other opportunities for solidarity action during the year. They include:

### **April 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> - Trade Week of Action**

- Participation in events organised by Trade Week of Action coordinators in Bangladesh.

### **April 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> - World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings**

- Protest on the use of PRSPs as a façade for business as usual--slogan of "Stick to structural adjustments!". Analysis of how little the poor and ultra-poor benefit from a growth-only strategy in Bangladesh. Incisive critique of the present PRSP for Bangladesh. Public fora and television debates on alternatives to the current poverty reduction strategy. Engagement with parliamentarians about the PRSP.

### **April 25<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> - Global Action Week for Education**

- Participation in events organised by CAMPE and partners. Emphasis on education as a means to end poverty.

### **May 1<sup>st</sup> - Labour Day**

- Mass mobilisation of the working poor, including especially agricultural workers, and informal sector workers. Clear, time-bound set of demands from and for the working poor. Demand for support, education and rehabilitation of child labourers in Bangladesh. Presentation of demands to government, employers and consumers.

### **October 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> - G20 Meeting**

- Demand that both rich and poor members of the G20 follow-up on their Millennium Declaration promises.

### **December 1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> - Rights Action Week**

#### **Dec 1<sup>st</sup> - HIV Awareness Day**

- Demand for government support of HIV orphans in Bangladesh. Demand for universal access to retroviral treatment. Call for expanded programme of HIV/AIDS prevention.

#### **Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> - Disability Awareness Day**

- Launch of proposed programme to prevent poverty among people with disabilities in Bangladesh. Demand for social welfare net for disabled people. Demand for education and training programmes.

#### **Dec 5<sup>th</sup> - Dignity Day**

- Rallies in support of rights, dignity, and respect for the poor. Joint call for dignity and protection of minorities and disadvantaged groups.

#### **Dec 8<sup>th</sup> - Global Day of Action Against Debt Domination**

- Follow-up on G8, World Bank and IMF debt lobbying. Expansion of debt lobbying to other official creditors. Mass public awareness among students about debt issues in Bangladesh and other developing countries. Release of report, "Bribed with our own money" about corrupt diversion of bilateral and multilateral loan funds in Bangladesh and other countries, and analysis of why official creditors turned a blind eye to it. Demand that creditors share accountability for the corruption.

### **Dec 10<sup>th</sup> - Human Rights Day**

- Dissemination of charter of human rights demands from the poor. Awareness about how the human rights of poor people are violated every day.

There are also a few other international events that have not been specifically identified by G-CAP for common action, but may still be relevant for the campaign in Bangladesh. They include:

### **March 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> - Beijing and Beyond**

- Demand for social safety net to protect women. Specific proposal for substantial allocation for poor women's welfare in the upcoming budget. Call for the legal system to better protect poor women.

### **May 8<sup>th</sup> - Mothers' Day, May 28<sup>th</sup> - International Women's Health Day**

- Press release highlighting maternal deaths in Bangladesh. Publication of action research identifying accountability for those deaths. Costed and time-bound proposal to the government for preventing maternal deaths.

### **July 13<sup>th</sup> - Live Aid Anniversary**

- Cultural event in solidarity with Africa. Demand that rich countries stop taking money from the poorest countries of Africa. Call for the completion of debt cancellation programmes and a 10-year freeze on official debt repayments from other countries in Africa.

### **September 8<sup>th</sup> - International Literacy Day**

- Release of proposal on how effective government or civil society literacy programmes can be a powerful tool for ending poverty and promoting universal education. Related proposal on how literacy and post-literacy programmes can be used to help achieve other Millennium Declaration goals.

Aside from these international opportunities, the most important events could be those linked with national dates and processes. These could include:

### **Date ? - PRSP Finalisation**

- Activities undertaken by SUPRO and other groups leading up to and continuing beyond the finalisation of the document. Launch of "PRSP Watch" on the day of official approval of the PRSP to monitor the implementation of pro-poor measures and assess in real time the positive, negative, or neutral impact on the poor of the GOB/World Bank/IMF strategy. Continued campaigning to push for revisions in the strategy and supplementation with effective pro-poor measures.

### **Date ? - Budget Preparation**

- Preparation and public release of pro-poor budget. Lobbying with the Ministry of Finance and key decision-makers in support of specific budgetary proposals. Demand for a progressive taxation system to support the needs of Bangladesh's development. After the tabling of the budget, preparation and release of specific recommended changes in the

budget to better reflect the interests of the poor and ultra-poor in Bangladesh. After passing of the budget, depending on the results, release of statement highlighting the positive changes in the budget and demanding full implementation of them, or release of statement, "The Man-Made Disasters of FY2005/6" to highlight the human impact of poor budgetary decisions. Afterwards, regular monitoring of the implementation of key pro-poor aspects of the budget.

#### **Date ? - Re-re-scheduled SAARC Summit**

- Events coordinated with other groups active on SAARC issues. Lobbying of SAARC leaders and embassies for the full achievement of the SAARC social charter. Release of an MDG, pro-poor, or human rights/socio-economic rights report card of SAARC countries showing how they are doing on these issues. Joint South Asian civil society demand for accelerated action to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality.

#### **September 29<sup>th</sup>-October 5<sup>th</sup> - Children's Rights Week**

- Release of statement/report on the denial of the rights of children from poor families. Costed and time-bound proposal for how the government can fully ensure children's rights. Analysis of how little the government is actually spending for the poor children of the country. Increased awareness among children of their socio-economic rights.

#### **October 10<sup>th</sup> - Fourth Anniversary of the Coalition Government**

- Release of review of the government's pro-poor or anti-poor measures during the last 4 years. Launch of "Broken Promise Countdown" for the unfulfilment of the government's pledges to the poor people of Bangladesh.

#### **November 4<sup>th</sup> - Constitution Day**

- Press release highlighting the socio-economic rights promised in the Constitution but denied in reality. Public forum featuring people involved in the original drafting of the Constitution.

#### **December 1<sup>st</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> - Liberation Month**

- Public awareness programmes and events highlighting the dreams and aspirations of those who sacrificed their lives for a just, equitable and poverty-free nation. Documentation of the socio-economic demands leading up to and during the liberation struggle. Mobilisation of muktijuddha and muktijuddha organisations to press for the realisation of those demands. Flying of white kites throughout the country to symbolise the dream of a poverty-free Bangladesh.

#### **January/February - School Enrolment**

- Mass mobilisation of NGOs and individuals for a grassroots enrolment drive at the start of the new school year. Special emphasis on motivation and support for poor and excluded children. Follow-up with retention efforts a few months later.

In addition to these events, it may be useful for members of the campaign to join in solidarity with the actions of fellow members. These could include, for example:

- Participation in the launch of the Social Watch Bangladesh report.
- Participation in the launch of the Education Watch report.

The above notes describe some of the possibilities for campaigning events over the next few months. While organising these events would be extremely important, for the campaign to be effective it would need to balance these events with a programme of strategic activities. Such types of activities could include:

- research and policy initiatives
- lobbying and campaigning
- documentation and information sharing
- media outreach
- public materials and general awareness
- regional and international networking
- social mobilisation
- local mobilisation
- programme interventions

A number of specific possibilities for these activities are outlined for the consideration of the Steering Committee as Appendix I. Some of the possibilities related to social mobilisation are described in the section immediately below.

Whatever events or activities may be selected for the campaign, it will be useful to bind them together through a common communication strategy or package. Some of the issues or elements to decide on for the strategy include:

- common symbol and interpretation of the symbol (e.g. white band against poverty and growing inequality in Bangladesh)
- campaign logo (Bangladeshi and/or international)
- common slogans
- common visual elements or graphics
- common campaign poster
- overall media strategy
- key messages to communicate (e.g. poverty can be eradicated in Bangladesh, the government must fulfil its commitments, all people should help end poverty, we need action not sympathy)

Common branding through the elements agreed upon could be used by organisations and coalitions in their own activities to help raise the profile of their efforts and present a stronger, united front of civil society.

## **7. Who could be involved in the campaign?**

A unique strength of this campaign could be its broad mobilisation of people from all possible sectors of society. Some of the possible sectors to involve in the campaign could be:

- Poor People themselves
- NGO Group Members

- NGOs
- CBOs
- Academics, Research Institutes
- Professional Associations
- Trade Unions, Labour Institutions
- Informal Sector Workers
- Businesses, Business Associations
- Cooperatives
- Religious Leaders
- Local Community Leaders
- Indigenous People's Organisations
- Women's Groups
- Youth Groups
- Girl Guides, Scouts
- Students, Children
- Parents
- Muktiyuddha
- Celebrities, Musicians, Sports Stars
- Central Government Officials
- Local Government Officials
- Retired Government Officials
- Teachers, Retired Teachers
- Concerned Citizens
- Non-Resident Bangladeshis
- Foreign Residents in Bangladesh

For some of these different sectors, some of the more practical issues include:

- How will participants from this sector be mobilised?
- How will their participation be organised?
- How will they contribute to campaign coordination?

For the participants who may not have had as much campaigning experience (such as poor people, parents, children, etc.), a further issue will be:

- How can their participation be genuine and empowering?

For all the participants in the campaign, it will be good to be clear on what is expected from participants and what is expected for participants.

On an international level G-CAP has taken an "open call" approach in which anyone is free to participate in the actions organised by the campaign if they support the campaign's broad objectives.

A few further possibilities related to social mobilisation are also mentioned in Appendix I.

## 8. How do we organise ourselves?

One of the more practical issues is how do we organise ourselves for a successful campaign. We can look at the 3 main issues of: how do we get input and make decisions; how do we delegate, specialise and facilitate participation; and how do we get work done.

For the first issue, so far we have formed a Steering Committee as the central decision-making body. Beyond this, some of the question to look at could be:

- Do we formalise the Steering Committee with a Terms of Reference for it and its members?
- Does the Steering Committee include representation of all stakeholders, including the poor?
- How can we ensure equal gender representation in the process?
- How often should the Steering Committee meet?
- When should the full group of campaign participants assemble?
- Should a smaller Executive Sub-Committee be formed for more practical management?
- What operational sub-committees should be formed from the Steering Committee (e.g. looking after finances, fundraising, media, policy, etc.)?
- Should we elect a leader or leaders, or form a council of equals without a first?
- Is there an additional need or potential benefit of an advisory council?

The second issue of delegation and specialisation will be critical as a campaign of this nature would need to draw on the expertise of people and organisations from a variety of fields. It will also be important when we try to avoid duplicating the existing efforts or coalitions in different sectors. Some of the key issues include:

- Do we form a limited number of sector committees or taskforces for a few major areas (e.g. education, health, women, youth, environment)?
- Should we form a more complete array of taskforces to address the full range of issues related to poverty eradication and development (for a possible list please see Appendix II)?
- How do we ensure that such taskforces complement but do not duplicate the existing work of the relevant sectoral forum or coalition?
- How can the work of different taskforces be brought together into a coherent whole?
- What should be the terms of reference for such taskforces or committees?

In addition sector-based committees, it may be useful to have specialised committees or fora to facilitate the social mobilisation and participation of specific constituencies, such as: children, youth, trade unions, business and business associations, retired government officials, etc.

The above notes describe some possibilities for specialisation at the national level, however, depending on the initial decisions on the reach of the campaign, it may be important to consider what kind of local structure the campaign should have. Of special importance would be the decision on how people and organisations could be

mobilised at the district and upazila levels, and how this would interact with the national process.

The third main issue is, how do we get work done? It is likely that some form of secretariat is necessary to anchor the campaign, but there are a number of variables to decide, including:

- How much of the work will be done by participants and how much by a secretariat?
- How will the secretariat be accountable to members?
- What should be the staff strength of the secretariat, and what should be their roles and duties?
- Will representatives from participant organisations be seconded to assist the secretariat?
- Where should the secretariat be based?

In addition to these structural matters, a few key practical issues include:

- How quickly will the secretariat and campaign be able to respond to new developments and opportunities?
- How will campaign documents and policies be reviewed and finalised?
- What in-kind contributions will be made to the campaign, and what additional resources may be needed?
- What fundraising will be undertaken directly by implementing organisations, and what fundraising will be done centrally?
- What will be the legal status of the campaign?

Certainly there are a number of other organisational and practical issues which will be important for the campaign. As appropriate, they can be examined now or in the future as the campaign develops.

## 9. What are possible problems and how can they be addressed?

Despite the best of plans and intentions, there is always a good chance that things don't go as smoothly as we would like. Some things are beyond our direct control (e.g. hartals, political violence, etc.), but there are other more routine "campaign organising risks" that we can try to prevent, or quickly resolve if they become a problem. Some of the risks for any campaign include:

- lack of agreement on policies
- lack of agreement on strategies
- significant differences between the national and international campaign
- unwillingness of campaign members to take on responsibilities
- irresponsibility of campaign members with the tasks they take on
- inadequate secretarial support for the campaign
- insufficient funding for the campaign
- conflicts over funding or finances
- gaps in communication between the secretariat and partners
- conflicts between the interests of the campaign and the interests of individuals groups
- real or perceived slights of campaign members
- division of campaign members into hostile camps
- focus on immediate activities, losing sight of the ultimate goal
- feeling of frustration when the expected results are not achieved
- lack of interest or effort for follow-up
- lack of sense of ownership of the campaign

None of these problems is insurmountable when there is a shared vision for the campaign and a commitment to the cause. It will be up to the campaign members to decide which of these or other campaign risks are worth taking note of, and together reaching a consensus on how best to prevent or resolve them.

## 10. What do we call ourselves?

Suggestions, anyone?

## Other Issues...

## Appendix I - Possible Activities and Programmes

Outlined below are a number of activities which could be undertaken within the framework of the campaign. The purpose of this list is only to provide a number of options from which the campaign participants can choose the most worthwhile and feasible ones. The activities could be undertaken as a collective campaign effort, or individually by organisations under the banner of the campaign. Only a few of the proposed activities relate exclusively to a single sector, as campaign activities for those sectors could be best suggested by the responsible platform or coalition, with a view to complementing and not duplicating their current advocacy activities. Additional suggestions would be most welcomed and would be added to future revisions of the list.

### Research and Policy Initiatives

- publication of independent report on progress towards the MDGs in Bangladesh
  - option 1: factual report based on professional-conducted national survey
  - option 2: report reviewing the efforts being made by the central government, local administration, donors, IFIs, UN agencies, civil society, private sector, etc. towards the MDGs, and assessing whether they will be enough for achieving the targets, report to include detailed review of the government's expenditures for the poor and hard-core poor
  - option 3: interviews with photos and video footage of 100 poor people of all ages to present their testimonies on how their life has or has not changed over the last five years (collection should include people who were poor in 2000 but are not poor now)
  - option 4 or more: ?
- agreement on and monitoring of key goals and indicators for Bangladesh's development, agreement on a composite indicator to define "poverty", establishment of a "Bangladesh Development Index" for feedback and monitoring of the government's performance, engagement of public leaders in support of these nationally-determined development goals
- annual independent multi-purpose household survey to collect data related to the MDGs, the BDGs, or other issues of concern to campaign participants, inclusion of a 1000-household subset for in-depth questions (such a joint survey could greatly reduce the cost and effort of sectoral coalitions each doing their own separate surveys)
- proposal for strategic points and statistics for monitoring poverty reduction, etc.
  - urban focal point in slums, monitoring of changes in nutrition status and access to basic necessities
  - rural monitoring of status of agricultural day labourers, changes in their family's situation
  - use of child labour statistics as an indicator of the effectiveness of anti-poverty interventions and a predictor of future levels of poverty
- index based on objective indicators to assess how much the government's de facto policies and programmes are pro-poor or anti-poor; comparison with other countries for relative ranking of Bangladesh (objective measures may show that

the present and former governments' policies are even more anti-poor than Bush's Republican administration)

- guide prepared by poor people on what they can do themselves to improve their situation, conversion of the guide into an easy-to-understand communication package (e.g. posters, stickers, leaflets, public service announcements, short video clips, murals, displays for melas, etc.), wide dissemination of the communication materials throughout Bangladesh
- identification of possible "quick wins" for Bangladesh (e.g. ensuring primary education is completely free, converting school stipends into a mid-day meal programme, distributing insecticide-treated mosquito nets, distributing free deworming tablets, reviving and expanding reproductive health services, constructing and maintaining toilets in all schools, providing clean drinking water in all factories)
- identification of "tough choices" for the government to make which could significantly help poverty eradication but would directly conflict with powerful interests (e.g. cracking down on toll-taking, following through with land reform, improving the labour conditions for garment workers, cracking down on teacher absenteeism, enforcing the compulsory education act, expanding domestic revenue collection to fund basic social services, protecting the legal rights of poor people, etc.), pressure on the government to make and implement pro-poor choices
- publication of MDG threat report, identification of key risks for achieving the MDGs in Bangladesh (e.g. global warming, political violence, rising fundamentalism, etc.), proposals on how these risks can be addressed
- publication each year of an alternative pro-poor budget (please also see description in campaign events section), calculation of the minimum financial commitment needed to realistically achieve the MDG targets in Bangladesh, description of an optimal level of investment for accelerating Bangladesh's development
- preparation of a "human rights-based budget" designed for the fulfilment of all constitutional guarantees and international human rights obligations in the shortest possible time (including full details on costing and plan for revenue generation), description of the economic benefits of the plan, challenge to policy-makers to prove that such a plan would be bad for the economy
- clear demand for an effective social safety net, identification of existing government programmes which should be scaled up to full coverage, identification of structural gaps in the current net for which new programmes are needed, proposal for immediate interventions for severely malnourished children and for adults living on less than 1600 Kcal per day, summary of the pledges to provide a social safety net in the Constitution and in other international commitments, estimate for the full cost of the programme, recommendations for resource mobilisation, recommendations for rigorous auditing and oversight
- process to quickly and cogently review and critique government reports related to the MDGs and Bangladesh's PRSP

- system to monitor key documents, proposed policies, conditionalities, and advice from IFIs and donors, development of locally-grounded alternatives to these policies from a pro-poor and human rights perspective
- increased analytical capacity of the campaign, capacity to do projections and use economic models to design and justify alternatives to the policies pushed by the World Bank and other agencies (e.g. alternative to the non-achievement of universal education proposed by the World Bank)
- description and analysis of the de facto economy of the poorest 20% and 50% of households, review of how Bangladesh's PRSP is likely to affect these sub-economies, demand that PRSP economy growth projections include estimates for these subsets
- close watch to guard against funds for poverty reduction being used for other economic interests (e.g. for building roads without domestic taxation)
- high-profile public report on aid to Bangladesh, analysis of how much of aid benefits the rich and how much benefits the poor, calculation and comparison of the "MDG value per dollar" of different donor projects, review of donors' explicit or implicit conditionalities, comparison of the amount of aid given by each donor to Bangladesh with the amount promised at UN conferences, analysis of corruption in bilateral and multilateral aid and review of governance practices and policies of donors, analysis of where donor aid simply results in the government shifting its resources elsewhere, simultaneous release of the report in Bangladesh and in several key donor countries, demand for the highest standards of good governance among donors in Bangladesh, call for donor accountability for corruption in aid projects, demand that the first priority of aid be to help the poor
- paper outlining a path for self-reliance in achieving the MDGs in Bangladesh, description of how to succeed even if "development partners" fail again
- annual report on domestic resource mobilisation in Bangladesh, critique of Bangladesh's no/low taxation model of development, economic analysis of an optimal balance between collective investments (financed through taxes) and individual expenditures, data on the effective incidence of taxation on the richest 20% and the poorest 20%, calculation of how little the rich are actually giving to help the poor of Bangladesh and comparison with the figures for other developed and developing countries, analysis of how the taxation system is limiting the economy of Bangladesh and contributing to the rise in income inequality, strong demand and campaign for a fair and progressive taxation system (Note: Bangladesh's government collects less than 1.5% of GDP worth of income tax; Bangladesh's total tax revenue is less than 10% of GDP, compared to 20% for other developing countries, 30% for pre-Bush America, and 40% for the European Union; we would have an extra \$4 billion each year if we simply raised taxes at the same rate as the rest of South Asia, and over \$15 billion each year using the same rate as the EU.)
- critique of the rich not only not assisting the poor but instead taking the lion's share of international aid, calculation of the net direct cash incentive for the rich keeping other Bangladeshis in absolute poverty (i.e. aid revenues benefiting the rich minus the minute amounts of net tax transfers from the rich to the poor)

- early alert system to identify policies or programmes not being implemented or not serving the interests of the poor
- closer engagement on the government's sectoral plans, monitoring of their implementation, reporting on progress or non-progress, interventions to overcome bureaucratic obstacles, interventions against unjustified donor conditionalities
- critical review of past development targets, careful analysis of the reasons our government failed to meet them, careful analysis of the reasons civil society was unable to keep the government on track, synopsis and sharing of lessons learned from those experiences
- compilation of the myriad of commitments made by our government at various international and regional fora, sharing of this information with the concerned government officers and civil society organisations, monitoring of the implementation of these commitments, feeding of this information to the media
- process for identifying, recognising and promoting successful government or civil society efforts of significant benefit for the poor
- mapping of who is doing what, where, and on what scale, identification of programme gaps and areas for government or NGO action (e.g. housing counselling services for current slum dwellers, public awareness about pneumonia, etc.)
- identification of who are the hard-core poor and ultra poor and what is their current situation (including where they live, what work they or their children do, what they identify as their most urgent needs and what they hope for the future), proposal for the most direct interventions to help free them from poverty, estimate of the cost and time required for a nation-wide programme for all people living in extreme poverty
- in-depth analysis of growing inequality in Bangladesh, understanding of past and present reasons for increases in inequality, calculation of the development dividend from reduced inequality, fact sheet on the difference between the rich and poor in Bangladesh, warning of the social risks of pronounced inequality, outline of clear agenda and policy recommendations to reduce inequality
- report on relative poverty in Bangladesh and its social effects, analysis of socio-cultural aspects of poverty that may persist even as incomes rise, recommendations for how to address these issues
- research and recommendations for incorporating a social equality agenda into the design and implementation of NGO programmes
- definition of an anti-exclusion agenda, analysis of how social exclusion produces poverty and deprivation, identification of excluded communities in Bangladesh, proposed action plan for government and civil society efforts to address exclusion
- proposal for worker-based model of poverty eradication, analysis of the terms of employment for workers in different low-wage sectors (e.g. domestic work, construction, brick-breaking, bidi rolling, rickshaw pulling, agricultural day labour, etc.), proposals for sector-specific interventions to boost household incomes and improve quality of life, analysis of options to reduce the unskilled labour force through skills training programmes and restrictions on under-aged workers,

recommendations for reducing morbidity of workers, launch of a fair wage campaign to increase the remuneration and respect for low-income workers, regular monitoring of the impact of these interventions on the pay and employment of workers in these sectors, regular monitoring of the status of workers' rights

- documentation of discrimination in the provision of government services to the poor (including especially services for poor women), encouragement of the media to regularly report on this issue
- review of government policies and programmes and recommendations for how they can be adjusted to better serve the poor, follow-up lobbying on these recommendations
- proposal for an intensive national human resource development plan (including basic education, secondary education, tertiary education, vocational training, adult literacy, post-literacy training, skills training, continuing education, and distance learning), clear budget and timetable for the plan, estimate of the annual economic returns of the plan, estimate of the MDG impact of the plan, formation of alliance with the private sector for political support of the plan
- proposal to focus on universal quality primary education as a key area for all-out MDG efforts, specific recommendations for accelerated achievement of universal education (e.g. increase in the primary education budget, elimination of all costs associated with primary education, enforcement of compulsory education, ensuring safety of girls at school, joint community/government system to monitor school performance, construction programme to fill gaps in school infrastructure, increase in effective contact hours to basic international standards, expansion of joyful learning programmes, ban on corporal punishment, etc.)
- proposal for using adult literacy programmes as a vehicle for achieving multiple development goals, identification of different social issues to increase awareness about through literacy and post-literacy programmes (e.g. HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, safe births, infant care, girl's education, environmental protection, etc.), estimate of the per person cost for basic literacy and post-literacy programmes, estimate of the MDG impact of such programmes
- proposal for child rights-based focus for poverty reduction and national development, identification of programme interventions and legal measures needed to fully implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, estimate of the cost for such programmes, analysis of the immediate and mid-term MDG impact of such efforts
- attempt to develop a common civil society position on economic globalisation for Bangladesh, analysis of what terms for globalisation would best benefit poor workers and consumers in Bangladesh, dialogue with the government and private sector on the key issues affecting the poor
- promotion of production of Fair Trade products in Bangladesh for both export and domestic consumption, identification of specific sectors with possibilities for Fair Trade production, estimate of the number of families that could rise out of poverty through such opportunities, promotion of Fair Trade products among Bangladeshi consumers

- analysis of the relative power of poor people in Bangladesh, recommendations for how different actors can help increase the power of poor people (i.e. possible steps by the government, local administration, civil society, poor people themselves, etc.), monitoring of how the relative power of poor people is or is not changing
- concrete and realistic proposals for a pro-poor justice system, budget and timetable for the implementation of the proposals
- analysis of how loan scams and high interest rates stifle the economy of Bangladesh and lead to greater suffering of the poor, development of a consensus-based action plan for addressing this issue, sustained pressure and lobbying for implementation of the plan
- research on the impact various negative practices have on the poor (e.g. hartals, political violence, black economy, extortion, toll taking, rampant crime, corrupt courts, etc.), highlighting of these issues in the media
- analysis of the cost of war to the poor in Bangladesh (e.g. increased fuel costs, reduced remittances, etc.), pro-active warning about these effects should another war be on the horizon...
- preparation of costed and time-bound policy proposals on specific development issues, rigorous process for review of the proposals (involving academics, civil society groups, retired government officials, expected beneficiaries, etc.); possible areas could include:
  - specific proposals for land reform with estimates of the expected reduction in the number of rural poor
  - specific proposals for agricultural subsidies which are likely to have the greatest per Taka benefit for the ultra-poor
  - proposal for a multi-faceted mother care programme, including nutrition, education, skills training, counselling, group support, health care, and rights awareness
  - proposal for nation-wide street children intervention and support programme with a budget and resource mobilisation plan
  - proposal for laws and programmes for broken families and abandoned children, proposed system of child support
  - proposal for large-scale retraining programmes to address present and future economic changes and opportunities
  - proposal for improved legal rights and access to services for domestic workers
  - proposal for pro-women police services and structure
- development of an action and policy oriented research agenda in conjunction with academics and research institutes, identification of key gaps in our information and understanding of poverty and MDG issues
- facilitation of local research, collection of models for local research, creation and dissemination of research templates which local groups can easily use

## **Lobbying and Campaigning**

- establishment of advocacy teams and campaign ambassadors to expand pro-poor lobbying at the national and local levels, budget for travelling and advocacy work of the teams at the district and upazila levels
- formation of international advocacy teams on key issues involving other countries (e.g. global warming, debt cancellation, duty-free market access, etc.)
- campaigning for full national coverage of quality public services, "Every Bangladeshi's Rights" charter of public service demands, fostering of a sense of ownership of public services,
- anti-negligence campaign for the health and education sectors, increased public awareness of the human cost of such negligence, suggestions for how people of all ages can help monitor and improve public services, possible hotline for people to report non-functioning services
- public sensitisation against corruption in poverty reduction programmes, increased awareness of the impact of such crimes, creation of social stigma against stealing from the poor, encouragement of public reporting and action against such corruption
- popular mobilisation in support of the independent anti-corruption commission, call for special efforts to combat corruption that most directly affects the poor
- lobbying of the caretaker/clean-up government to root out corrupt and inefficient administrators of key government social programmes
- campaigning against the GOB/World Bank/UNDP plan to have urban illiterate households contribute \$405 million dollars between now and 2015 for their children's primary education
- promotion of Corporate Social Responsibility and Accountability, review of the corporate practices of major Bangladeshi companies and multinationals in Bangladesh, public recognition of the most responsible companies
- campaigning against specific multinationals or incidents involving multinationals, e.g. international campaign against Unocal for non-payment of \$685 million in damages for the Magurchhara blowout
- campaigning for government action to root out local mafia, mapping of local mafia controlled parts of the country, involvement of the media in highlighting the issue
- active promotion of a good governance agenda, proposals for depoliticisation of the administration, proposal for system of accountability of public officials, regular monitoring and measurement of progress according to agreed governance indicators
- dialogue with political parties at the local level to promote non-violent politics and a focus on development issues
- engagement and motivation of parliamentarians in support of development goals, partnership with parliamentarians to design and implement a pro-poor agenda in their constituency
- encouragement of consensual planning on development issues (as difficult as this may be!) to avoid having to start again at Year 0 after each election, identification of areas of agreement and areas of specific disagreement to facilitate transitions between governments

- due recognition and credit for progress by the government towards development goals, suggestions for and encouragement of further efforts
- lobbying for the rehabilitation and education promised by the government for all children currently involved in the worst forms of child labour
- awareness raising among the elite on how they may have contributed to extreme poverty in Bangladesh, drawing the link between individual actions and national poverty, recommendations for how they can help address the current situation, motivation of their greater participation in and support for pro-poor efforts
- public awareness campaign among the poor and middle class on signs of infant and child malnutrition, distribution of posters or other tools to help identify stunting or wasting
- mobilisation of religious leaders, local government officials, students, journalists, and celebrities for national campaign against child marriages
- nation-wide campaign against dowry among all levels of society

### **Documentation and Information Sharing**

- interactive website on the campaign, MDGs, and Bangladesh Development Goals
- establishment of a poverty eradication and MDG information centre (perhaps building on an existing resource centre)
- compilation and dissemination of local studies on poverty eradication efforts in different parts of Bangladesh (perhaps in conjunction with ActionAid's Shared Learning programme)
- streamlined system for learning from programme and campaigning models in other countries
- e-digest of local, national, international information resources

### **Media Outreach**

- pick up on international campaign events of interest to the media (e.g. Nelson Mandela's speech in London), release of Bangla press notes related to national and international G-CAP activities
- channelling of local news from Bangladesh to G-CAP partners in other countries
- establishment of a news service on poverty eradication and MDG issues
- creation of media support unit to provide background research and material for journalists
- encouragement of investigative journalism on poverty issues, encouragement of regular newspaper columns or pages on development goals, facilitation of news reporters' direct access to the poor for their views on issues affecting them
- establishment of national radio channel on development issues
- promotion and facilitation of TV programmes on poverty and development goals

## **Public Materials and General Awareness**

- publication of brochure describing the campaign's vision and plan of action
- production of simple booklets or leaflets on the MDGs or BDGs
- publication of newsletter to support and advance the campaign
- creation of powerpoint presentation about the campaign
- preparation and distribution of assorted campaign materials (e.g. posters, stickers, banners, flags, etc.)
- incorporation of white bands into various campaigning events
- placement of the logo or campaign messages on common consumer products
- compilation of slogans for marches and rallies
- production of a campaign song
- production of a popular music album on the BDGs or Bangladesh's vision for development
- creation of radio jingles on development goals
- production of video spots to express key campaign messages
- production of short clips on development goals for release in movie theatres
- use of folk theatre (when allowed again!) to spread campaign messages, creation of templates for street plays or school plays
- launch of cross-country caravan to highlight the issue of growing inequality in Bangladesh
- creation of lesson plans on poverty and inequality for students of different ages
- organisation of student essay competitions and debating competitions on development goals
- organisation of a public debate series on development goals involving representatives of different political parties and other national leaders
- facilitation of a national debate in leading Bangla and English dailies on development goals and priorities for Bangladesh
- lobbying of the UNDP and the UN Information Centre to more effectively promote the MDGs in Bangladesh to help create political space for the campaign

## **Regional and International Networking**

- formation of a regional campaign platform, or incorporation of the campaign agenda into existing regional initiatives
- development of regional campaign strategies and actions focussed on SAARC and the SAARC social charter
- push for common South Asian development goals and time-bound targets

- publication of a joint regional report, creation of a common regional monitoring system
- analysis of the impact on the poor of high or low-level tension in the region, development of a common civil society agenda to permanently resolve this tension
- joint lobbying of embassies from SAARC countries in solidarity with the national campaigns of those countries
- hosting of a campaign linking and strategy sharing meeting with campaign leaders from West Bengal, Assam and Tripura
- facilitation of links between organisations in Bangladesh and campaign partners in other countries on sectoral programmes or specific campaign issues
- participation in Asian regional coordination of G-CAP
- participation in international coordination of G-CAP

### **Social Mobilisation**

- formation of development goals and priorities for specific groups, e.g.
  - indigenous people
  - minority communities
  - refugees
  - people with disabilities
  - youth
  - children
- use of the campaign to build a movement of the poor in which poor people set and achieve their own agenda (Note: The transition from I-PRSP to PRSP had cut out the strategy of forming "corporations of the poor".)
- organisation of people's empowerment melas to help mobilise the poor and middle-class
- mobilisation of students and youth as a strong force in support of the development goals
- formation of citizen action groups for the development goals
- formation of an advocacy alliance with the private sector on matters of common interest
- preparation of a briefing document on the MDGs or BDGs for imams, priests and other religious leaders, involvement of local religious leaders in promoting development goals
- encouragement of the participation of sincere teachers in the development process of their community
- involvement of international schools in Dhaka and Chittagong, including especially with international aspects of the campaign

## **Local Mobilisation**

- district and upazila level mobilisation and organisation of the campaign
- local-level training programme on development goals and anti-poverty advocacy
- creation of local maps of missing government services (e.g. education, health, reproductive health, etc.)
- setting of locally-owned district, upazila, union, or village-level development goals and targets
- promotion of transparent measurement and monitoring of local goals, regular liaison with local officials for clarity on the targets and indicators, dialogue with UNOs to discuss what indicators they will be accountable for
- initiation of an annual district-level survey of core development goals as a means to measure the performance of local government officials and to focus local civil society efforts
- publication of report cards grading the development efforts and achievements of local governments, recognition of successes and genuine efforts of local officials

## **Programme Interventions**

- incorporation of the MDGs or BDGs into the regular work of NGOs and other civil society groups
- launch of a "Change from Within" programme for the large number of people employed by NGOs in Bangladesh, awareness and sensitisation programme on issues such as dowry, domestic violence, workers' rights, environmental protection, safe motherhood, HIV/AIDS, etc.
- encouragement and facilitation of an expanded public vigilance role of national and local NGOs
- joint programme for defending democracy in Bangladesh
- establishment of an anti-corruption hotline (if the Anti-Corruption Commission does not start functioning)
- launch of anti-violence programme against household, criminal, and political violence
- mass legal programme for defending the poor, mobilisation of idealistic young lawyers and journalists
- expansion of practical environmental programmes in schools, establishment of school-based environment monitoring system
- nation-wide student loan programme for secondary and tertiary education of orphans and children from poor families
- joint civil society and private sector initiative to produce and distribute affordable drugs for the poor in Bangladesh and in other developing countries
- united civil society drive for universal primary school enrolment and completion
- integrated programme for addressing socio-cultural dimensions of poverty

## Appendix II - Possible Areas for Sector Taskforces

Further to the discussion of Question 8, some of the possible areas for sector taskforces could include:

- Aid
- Children
- Debt, Finance and Macroeconomic Issues
- Democracy
- Disasters
- Economic Growth and Stability
- Education
- Employment and Worker's Rights
- Environment
- Food Security and Nutrition
- Governance and Corruption
- Health
- HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis and Other Diseases
- Human Rights
- Indigenous People
- Legal Rights and Justice System
- Microcredit
- Minority Rights
- Peace and Security
- Population
- Private Sector
- PRSP and Poverty Eradication Strategy
- Rural Poverty and Development
- Trade and WTO
- Urban Development and Slums
- Water and Sanitation
- Women
- Youth

In addition to these main areas, some specific issues which could merit a specialised taskforce or working group include, for example:

- Adult Literacy
- Biotechnology
- Child Labour
- Information and Communication Rights
- Infrastructure and Energy
- International Financial Institutions
- Land Reform
- Migrant Workers
- Multinational Corporations
- National Self-Reliance
- Social Safety Net
- South Asian Cooperation
- Transportation
- Others...

## Appendix III - Millennium Development Goals

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS, TARGETS, AND INDICATORS	
GOALS AND TARGETS from the Millennium Declaration	INDICATORS for Monitoring Progress
<b>GOAL 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER</b>	
<b>Target 1:</b> Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day.	<p><b>Indicator 1:</b> Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day</p> <p><b>Indicator 1a:</b> Poverty headcount ratio (percentage of population below the poverty line)</p> <p><b>Indicator 2:</b> Poverty gap ratio (incidence X depth of poverty)</p> <p><b>Indicator 3:</b> Share of poorest quintile in national consumption</p>
<b>Target 2:</b> Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.	<p><b>Indicator 4:</b> Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age.</p> <p><b>Indicator 5:</b> Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption.</p>
<b>GOAL 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION</b>	
<b>Target 3:</b> Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.	<p><b>Indicator 6:</b> Net enrolment ratio in primary education.</p> <p><b>Indicator 7:</b> Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5.</p> <p><b>Indicator 8:</b> Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds.</p>
<b>GOAL 3: PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER WOMEN</b>	
<b>Target 4:</b> Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015.	<p><b>Indicator 9:</b> Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary, and tertiary education</p> <p><b>Indicator 10:</b> Ratio of literate women to men, 15-24 years old</p> <p><b>Indicator 11:</b> Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector</p> <p><b>Indicator 12:</b> Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament</p>
<b>GOAL 4: REDUCE CHILD MORTALITY</b>	
<b>Target 5:</b> Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate	<p><b>Indicator 13:</b> Under-five mortality rate</p> <p><b>Indicator 14:</b> Infant mortality rate</p> <p><b>Indicator 15:</b> Proportion of 1 year-old children immunised against measles</p>

<b>GOAL 5: IMPROVE MATERNAL HEALTH</b>	
<b>Target 6:</b> Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality rate	<p><b>Indicator 16:</b> Maternal mortality ratio</p> <p><b>Indicator 17:</b> Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel</p>
<b>GOAL 6: COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA, AND OTHER DISEASES</b>	
<b>Target 7:</b> Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS	<p><b>Indicator 18:</b> HIV prevalence among pregnant women aged 15-24 years</p> <p><b>Indicator 19:</b> Condom use rate of the contraceptive prevalence rate</p> <p><b>Indicator 19a:</b> Condom use at high-risk sex</p> <p><b>Indicator 19b.</b> Percentage of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS</p> <p><b>Indicator 19c.</b> Contraceptive prevalence rate</p> <p><b>Indicator 20:</b> Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years.</p>
<b>Target 8:</b> Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other diseases.	<p><b>Indicator 21:</b> Prevalence and death rates associated with malaria.</p> <p><b>Indicator 22:</b> Proportion of population in malaria-risk areas using effective malaria prevention and treatment measures.</p> <p><b>Indicator 23:</b> Prevalence and death rated associated with tuberculosis</p> <p><b>Indicator 24:</b> Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cure under DOTS.</p>
<b>GOAL 7: ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</b>	
<b>Target 9:</b> Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.	<p><b>Indicator 25:</b> Proportion of land area covered by forest.</p> <p><b>Indicator 26:</b> Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area</p> <p><b>Indicator 27:</b> Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)</p> <p><b>Indicator 28:</b> Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons)</p> <p><b>Indicator 29:</b> Proportion of population using solid fuels</p>

<p><b>Target 10:</b> Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.</p>	<p><b>Indicator 30:</b> Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural.</p> <p><b>Indicator 31:</b> Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural.</p>
<p><b>Target 11:</b> By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.</p>	<p><b>Indicator 32:</b> Proportion of households with access to secure tenure.</p>
<p><b>GOAL 8: DEVELOP A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT</b></p>	
<p><b>Target 12:</b> Develop further an open, rule-based, predictably, non-discriminatory trading and financial system.</p> <p>Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally.</p>	<p><i>Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries (LDCs), Africa, landlocked countries and small island developing States.</i></p> <p>Official development assistance</p> <p><b>Indicator 33:</b> Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as a percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income</p> <p><b>Indicator 34:</b> Proportion of total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)</p> <p><b>Indicator 35:</b> Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is untied</p>
<p><b>Target 13:</b> Address the special needs of the least developed countries</p> <p>Includes tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction</p>	<p><b>Indicator 36:</b> ODA received in landlocked countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes</p> <p><b>Indicator 37:</b> ODA received in small island developing States as proportion of their gross national incomes</p> <p><b>Indicator 38:</b> Proportion of total developed country imports (by value excluding arms) from developing countries and from the least developed countries, admitted free of duty</p>
<p><b>Target 14:</b> Address the special needs of landlocked countries and small island developing States (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly)</p>	<p><b>Indicator 39:</b> Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries</p> <p><b>Indicator 40:</b> Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product</p> <p><b>Indicator 41:</b> Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity</p>

<p><b>Target 15:</b> Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term</p>	<p><b>Indicator 42:</b> Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision pointed and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)</p> <p><b>Indicator 43:</b> Debt relief committed under HIPC initiative</p> <p><b>Indicator 44:</b> Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services</p>
<p><b>Target 16:</b> In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth</p>	<p><b>Indicator 45:</b> Unemployment rate of young people aged 15-24 years, each sex and total</p>
<p><b>Target 17:</b> In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries</p>	<p><b>Indicator 46:</b> Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis</p>
<p><b>Target 18:</b> In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications</p>	<p><b>Indicator 47:</b> Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 population</p> <p><b>Indicator 48a:</b> Personal computers in use per 100 population and internet users per 100 population</p> <p><b>Indicator 48b:</b> Internet users per 100 population</p>

## Appendix IV - Targets and Progress Internationally

Indicator	Starting year value (1990)	Ending year value (2000)	MDG target value for 2015	Millennium Declaration target value for 2015
Proportion below poverty line	29%	22%	15%	11%
Proportion of underweight children	32%	28%	16%	14%
Primary enrolment rate	78%	83%	100%	100%
Literacy of 15-24 year olds	82%	87%	n/s	n/s
Ratio of female primary enrolment	0.88	0.94	1.00	1.00
Ratio of female secondary enrolment		0.82 (1998)	1.00	1.00
Ratio of female tertiary enrolment			1.00	1.00
Under-5 mortality rate (per 1000)	94	81	31	27
Infant mortality rate (per 1000)	63	56 (2002)	n/s	n/s
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000)	430	400	108	100
HIV prevalence among 15-to-24-year-old pregnant women			n/s	n/s
Deaths due to malaria (per 100,000)			n/s	n/s
Deaths due to tuberculosis (per 100,000)		26 (2001)	n/s	n/s
% of land area covered by forest			n/s	n/s
% of population who do not have access to safe drinking water	30%	20%	15%	10%
% of population with access to improved sanitation	51%	61%	n/s	n/s
% of households with access to secure tenure	67% (1993)		n/s	n/s
Net ODA as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' GNP	0.33% (GNI)	0.22% (2001, GNI)	n/s	n/s
Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries admitted free of duties and quotas	47% (1996)	62%		n/s
Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from least developed countries admitted free of duties and quotas	68% (1996)	77%	all?	essentially all (preferably by May 2001)

Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points	n/a	21	all applicable?	implement without further delay
Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC completion points	n/a	1	all applicable?	cancel all official bilateral debts of HIPC countries committed to poverty reduction
Unemployment rate of 15-to-24-year olds		10% (1999)	n/s	n/s
Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis		67%	n/s	n/s
Telephone lines (per 1,000 people)	100	322 (2001)	n/s	(see ECOSOC 2000 Ministerial Declaration)

(Data Sources: Millennium Development Goals: Progress during the 1990s, Summary Report; We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century; Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration; The State of the World's Children 2004; EFA Global Monitoring Report 2002; EFA Global Monitoring Report 2003/4, Human Development Report 2003; OECD Methodological Note)

n/a - not applicable

n/s - not specified

## Appendix V - Targets and Progress in Bangladesh

Indicator	Starting year value (1990)	Ending year value (2000)	Linearly projected 2015 value	MDG target value for 2015	Millennium Declaration target value for 2015
Proportion below poverty line	0.59	0.50	0.37	0.30	0.25
Proportion of underweight children	0.67	0.51	0.27	0.34	0.26
Primary enrolment rate	0.56	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00
Literacy of 15-24 year olds	0.42 (1985)	0.64	0.86	n/s	n/s
Ratio of female primary enrolment	0.87	1.02	-	1.00	1.00
Ratio of female secondary enrolment	0.53	1.05	-	1.00	1.00
Ratio of female tertiary enrolment	0.33			1.00	1.00
Under-5 mortality rate (per 1000)	151	84	-	50	28
Infant mortality rate (per 1000)	94	58	-	n/s	n/s
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000)	574	380	89	144	95
Deaths due to malaria (per 100,000)	1.2 (1997)	0.64 (2001)	-	n/s	n/s
Deaths due to tuberculosis (per 100,000)	21.9 (1996)	11.3	-	n/s	n/s
% with access to improved water (national)	94%	97% (2001)	100%	97%	99%
% with access to improved water (urban)	99%	99%	99%	100%	100%
% with access to improved water (rural)	93%	97%	100%	97%	99%
% with access to improved sanitation (national)	41%	48% (2001)	57%	71%	n/s
% with access to improved sanitation (urban)	71%	74%	79%	86%	n/s
% with access to improved sanitation (rural)	11%	35%	71%	56%	n/s
% of population using adequate sanitation facilities	21% (1991)	48% (2003)	75%	61%	74%
% of land area covered by forest	15% (1998)	18%		n/s	n/s

(Data Sources: Millennium Development Goals Needs Assessment - Bangladesh Country Study; Millennium Development Goals: Bangladesh Progress Report; EFA Global Monitoring Report 2003/4)

n/s - not specified

## Appendix VI - Sketchy History of the MDGs

**1990s** - High-profile UN conferences held on various development issues (i.e. education, children, sustainable development, human rights, population, women, social development, etc.).

**1996** - UN observes the first International Year for the Eradication of Poverty.

**7 May 1996** - High Level Meeting of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) adopts strategy paper, "*Shaping the 21st Century: The contribution of development co-operation*", to help 23 bilateral donors work together more effectively. Paper selects a limited number of indicators by which donors' efforts can be judged. Paper specifies the following time-bound and quantifiable targets, which become known as the "International Development Goals" (IDGs):

- 1) The proportion of people living in extreme poverty in developing countries should be reduced by at least one-half by 2015.
- 2) There should be universal primary education in all countries by 2015.
- 3) Progress toward gender equality and the empowerment of women should be demonstrated by eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005.
- 4) The death rate for infants and children under the age of five years should be reduced in each developing country by two-thirds the 1990 level by 2015.
- 5) The rate of maternal mortality should be reduced by three-fourths during this same period.
- 6) Access should be available through the primary health-care system to reproductive health services for all individuals of appropriate ages, including safe and reliable family planning methods, as soon as possible and no later than the year 2015.
- 7) There should be a current national strategy for sustainable development, in the process of implementation, in every country by 2005, so as to ensure that current trends in the loss of environmental resources--forests, fisheries, fresh water, climate, soils, biodiversity, stratospheric ozone, the accumulation of hazardous substances and other major indicators--are effectively reversed at both global and national levels by 2015.

**28 June 1996** - G7 Summit in Lyon welcomes the work of the OECD in setting measurable development goals, although notes that, "Other essential aspects of development must also be considered, including a number of non-measurable qualitative factors."

**1997** - UN begins observance of 1997-2006 as the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty.

**31 March 1997** - World Bank adopts the OECD's development targets in its Strategic Compact.

**17 May 1998** - G8 Summit in Birmingham pledges a real and effective partnership in support of countries' efforts to reach the economic and social development goals set out by the OECD. G8 members promise to "work with them to achieve at least primary education for children everywhere, and to reduce drastically child and maternal mortality and the proportion of the world's population living in extreme poverty."

**1999** - International Monetary Fund (IMF) publishes the International Development Goals on a small card called the "*Seven pledges of sustainable development*".

**18 June 1999** - G7 Finance Ministers meeting in Köln call on "the World Bank to work with countries, the Fund and Regional Development Banks on drawing up and monitoring implementation and follow up of social indicators".

**30 July 1999** - UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) adopts Resolution 1999/55, "*Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits*". Resolution invites the Statistical Commission, with the assistance of the Statistics Division, to review the work undertaken to harmonise and rationalise basic indicators for follow-up to UN conferences and summits, and to identify a limited number of common indicators in order to lessen the data provision burden on Member States.

**18-19 November 1999** - Joint World Bank/IMF/OECD/UN Senior Expert Meeting on Statistical Capacity Building held at World Bank office in Paris. Over a dozen high level statistical and policy officials from developing and transition countries included among the 100+ participants. PARTnership In Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) launched by consortium of the OECD, World Bank, UN, IMF, and European Commission. Meeting participants agree to, "Initiate statistical capacity-building programs in HIPC countries qualifying for enhanced debt relief by the end of 2000, as part of their Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers or in other countries producing Comprehensive Development Frameworks and/or UN Development Assistance Frameworks" and, "to promote well co-ordinated, effective statistical initiatives at the national, regional and international levels".

**9-10 March 2000** - Joint World Bank/IMF/OECD/UN Forum on Development Progress held at OECD Headquarters in Paris to examine progress in the 1990s towards the International Development Goals and consider the gaps still to be bridged. Meeting assists in preparation of document to meet G-8 Köln Summit's request for an annual report on poverty reduction and to inform upcoming OECD Ministerial, WSSD+5 Conference and UN Economic and Social Council.

**3 April 2000** - UN Secretary-General releases Millennium Report, "*We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century*". Report urges Heads of State or Governments to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day, from its current level of 22 per cent. Report contains various recommendations on other key development issues.

**26 June 2000** - "*A Better World for All: Progress towards the international development goals*" jointly published by the World Bank, IMF, OECD and UN Secretariat based on the statistical work of PARIS21 and initial feedback from the Forum on Development Progress. Report essentially repeats the seven development goals adopted by the OECD in 1996:

- 1) reduce the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by half between 1990 and 2015
- 2) enrol all children in primary school by 2015
- 3) make progress towards gender equality and empowering women by eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005
- 4) reduce infant and child mortality rates by two-thirds between 1990 and 2015
- 5) reduce maternal mortality rates by three-quarters between 1990 and 2015
- 6) provide access to all who need reproductive health services by 2015
- 7) implement national strategies for sustainable development by 2005 so as to reverse the loss of environmental resources by 2015

Report simultaneously released at OECD Ministerial Meeting in Paris and WSSD+5 in Geneva. Press conference held in Geneva to launch the report involves UN Secretary-General and representatives from the World Bank, IMF, OECD, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and WFP. UN Secretary-General asked about the report being nicknamed "A Bretton Woods for All". Mark Malloch Brown, UNDP Administrator and former World Bank Vice-President for External Affairs and UN Affairs, explains that "the origins of this report lie in a request from the G-8 to have a tool each year when they meet to benchmark progress towards the development goals" and it is intended "to force them to do more to support poverty reduction in the South". When further asked about the partnership with the World Bank, IMF, and OECD and the absence of WHO, he explains that there is no reason to include more organisations since it "is not a policy partnership". He emphasises that "it's not intended to be some broad partnership to set development policy for the world" and maintains, "It is a partnership to benchmark these issues for the future years". Brian Hammond from the OECD Development Cooperation Directorate states that the report is "a sign of partnership in action between the four organizations and it is partnership in action for the long term."

**28 June 2000** - "*A Better World for All*" report sharply criticised by civil society groups. Joint statement issued by NGO Caucuses calls on Member States to reject the report and demands that the UN withdraw its endorsement of the report.

**1 July 2000** - UN General Assembly adopts the outcome documents of the WSSD+5 Summit held in Geneva. Assembly commits to "eradicate poverty in the world, through decisive national actions and international cooperation" and to "build consensus with all relevant actors at all levels on policies and strategies to reduce the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by one half by the year 2015 with a view to eradicating poverty." Press release issued by the UN announces that the final agreement calls for "halving the number of persons living in extreme poverty by 2015".

**23 July 2000** - G8 Summit in Okinawa commits its members to the International Development Goals published in "*A Better World for All*", but promises no additional resources for achieving the goals.

**28 July 2000** - UN ECOSOC adopts Resolution 2000/27, "*Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels*". Resolution takes note of the UN Secretary-General's report on progress on basic indicators for the follow-up to major UN conferences, and "Emphasizes that the indicators used by the Secretariat in the context of the coordinated and integrated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits should be developed with the full participation of all countries and approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies".

**8 September 2000** - UN General Assembly adopts historic "*United Nations Millennium Declaration*" with the support of 189 UN member states and the direct participation of 147 Heads of State or Government. Declaration addresses issues of: values and principles; peace, security and disarmament; development and poverty eradication; environmental protection; human rights, democracy and good governance; protection of children, refugees, and civilians in complex emergencies; the special needs of Africa; and strengthening the UN. Section on development and poverty eradication adopts several time-bound global targets for the year 2015.

**14 December 2000** - UN General Assembly adopts Resolution 55/162, "*Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit*". Resolution stresses the need for maintaining the political will and momentum of the Millennium Summit and recognises the need for creating a framework for the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. Resolution invites the Bretton Woods Institutions to become involved actively in the implementation of and follow-up to the Summit and requests them to keep the General Assembly informed about how they contribute to the implementation of the Declaration. Resolution requests the UN Secretary-General to urgently prepare a long-term "road map" towards the implementation of the Millennium Declaration within the United Nations system and to submit it to the General Assembly.

**19-20 March 2001** - Seminar on the International Development Goals hosted at the World Bank's Headquarters in Washington with selected participants from developing countries, bilateral donors, the UN and its specialised agencies, the IMF and the World Bank. Speakers take stock of progress made in establishing a common set of quantitative development objectives and exchange views on the opportunities for and obstacles to reaching the goals.

**June 2001** - Follow up meeting held in New York to discuss the Millennium Declaration and the International Development Goals, with a view to merging the two documents into a single set of Millennium Development Goals.

**19 September 2001** - UN Secretary-General releases document A/56/326, "*Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration*". Document reviews developments related to each of the goals specified in the Millennium Declaration and highlights strategies for moving forward on each of them. Executive Summary states that the section entitled "Development and poverty eradication: the millennium development goals", focuses on sustainable development through poverty eradication, emphasising the importance of halving the number of people who currently live on one dollar a day or less. Text of that section repeats Millennium Declaration commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's population whose income is less than one dollar a day. Annex entitled "Millennium development goals" lists Target 1 as, "Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day". (Thus, the Executive Summary calls for 550 million people to be in absolute poverty in 2015, the text of the report aims for approximately 790 million people, and the annex sets a target of approximately 1,050 million people living in absolute poverty at that time.) Annex lists a total of 8 goals, 18 targets, and 48 indicators. Key targets and indicators are substantially the same as those set out in "*A Better World for All*", except for: addition of targets for halving the proportion of people suffering from hunger and the proportion of people without sustainable access to drinking water and sanitation; replacement of reproductive health goal with goal of combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; and addition of a new goal and set of targets for "Developing a global partnership for development". (Please see Appendix VII for a more detailed review.) Initial text of the annex explains that "consultations were held among members of the United Nations Secretariat and representatives of IMF, OECD, and the World Bank in order to harmonize reporting on the development goals in the Millennium Declaration and the international development goals" and states that, "For the purpose of monitoring progress, the normal baseline year for the targets will be 1990, which is the baseline that has been used by the global conferences of the 1990s." Text of the annex further claims that, "The list of millennium development goals does not undercut in any way agreements on other goals and targets reached at the global conferences of the 1990s", but does not mention that the list undercuts the targets of the Millennium Declaration itself, which technically are not from a "global conference of the 1990s".

**19 September 2001** - World Bank issues press release announcing that, "it is joining the United Nations as a full partner in implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)". Release further notes that the World Bank had been fully engaged in the international effort to define the goals. IMF issues press release welcoming the United Nation's announcement of the MDGs and pledging that, "The IMF is committed to doing its part in these efforts. Release explains that, "The MDGs' targets and indicators are the outcome of extensive consultations between members of the UN Secretariat and staff of the IMF, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the World Bank." OECD issues press release praising the focus on the MDGs in the UN Secretary-General's "road map" on implementing the Millennium Declaration. Release states that, "These goals build on

the International Development Goals that have been guiding the development agenda since the OECD's Development Assistance Committee published them in its 1996 report *Shaping the 21st Century: The Role of Development Co-operation.*"

**19 November 2001** - UN General Assembly meets in plenary to discuss the Secretary-General's report "*Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration*". Neither the UN Secretary-General nor a representative for him attends the session to introduce the report. Delegates speak on the broad range of issues addressed in the Millennium Declaration, including especially matters of peace and security. UN press release summarising the report states that the section on development and poverty eradication emphasises "the importance of halving the number of people who currently live on \$1 a day or less."

**14 December 2001** - UN General Assembly passes without a vote Resolution 56/95, "*Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit*", taking note with appreciation of the Secretary-General's report "*Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration*" and recommending that it be considered a useful guide in the implementation of the Millennium Declaration by the UN system.

## Appendix VII - "Harmonisation" of the IDGs and the Millennium Declaration Development Goals

The following table summarises the results of the process undertaken by the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), in close consultation with the World Bank, IMF, OECD and other UN specialised agencies, to "harmonise" the International Development Goals and the development goals of the Millennium Declaration. The results of this process are the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their related targets published in the UN Secretary-General's *"Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration"*.

Area	International Development Goals and Targets Published by World Bank/IMF/OECD/UNSD (June 2000)	Development Goals and Targets of the Millennium Declaration Unanimously Adopted by UN General Assembly (September 2000)	"Harmonisation" Decisions	Targets for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Annexed to UN Secretary-General's "Road Map" (September 2001)
Poverty	The proportion of people living in extreme poverty in developing countries should be reduced by at least one-half between 1990 and 2015	To halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day [from the level in 2000]	Millennium Declaration wording with WB/IMF/OECD/UNSD time-frame but without "at least" framing of target	Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day
	-	To halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger [from the level in 2000]	Millennium Declaration, rescaled to 1990-2015	Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger
Education	There should be universal primary education in all countries by 2015	To ensure that, by the year 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling	Millennium Declaration	Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling
Education/Gender	Progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women should be demonstrated by eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005	To ensure that, by the year 2015, that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education	Millennium Declaration, with preference noted for meeting 2005 target for primary and secondary education, and with phrasing of "no later" for 2015 target	Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

<b>Gender</b>	-	To promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable	deleted (related indicators but no target)	-
	-	To combat all forms of violence against women and to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	deleted (no indicator or target)	-
<b>Child Mortality</b>	The death rates for infants should be reduced in each developing country by two-thirds between 1990 and 2015	-	deleted (subsumed in U5MR target)	-
	The death rates for children under the age of five years should be reduced in each developing country by two-thirds between 1990 and 2015	To have reduced, by the year 2015, under-five child mortality by two thirds of their current rates	WB/IMF/OECD/UNSD, without reference to developing countries	Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate
<b>Maternal Health</b>	The rate of maternal mortality should be reduced by three-quarters between 1990 and 2015	To have reduced, by the year 2015, maternal mortality by three quarters of their current rates	WB/IMF/OECD/UNSD	Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality rate
<b>Population</b>	Access should be available through the primary healthcare system to reproductive health services for all individuals of appropriate ages, no later than 2015	-	deleted (related indicators but no target)	-
<b>Diseases</b>	-	To have, by the year 2015, halted, and begun to reverse, the spread of HIV/AIDS	Millennium Declaration	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

	-	To have, by the year 2015, halted, and begun to reverse, the scourge of malaria and other major diseases that afflict humanity	Millennium Declaration, with minor rephrasing	Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other diseases
	-	To provide special assistance to children orphaned by HIV/AIDS	deleted (no indicator or special target)	-
	-	To help Africa build up its capacity to tackle the spread of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other infectious diseases	deleted (no indicator or target)	-
<b>Environment</b>	There should be a current national strategy for sustainable development, in the process of implementation, in every country by 2005, so as to ensure that the current trends in the loss of environmental resources are effectively reversed at both global and national levels by 2015	-	WB/IMF/OECD/UNSD, without reference to deadlines, global targets or effectiveness, and with emphasis on integrating principles into policies and programmes instead of having a "current national strategy" that is being implemented	Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources
	-	To halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water	Millennium Declaration, rescaled to 1990-2015, with rephrasing of "unable to reach or to afford" to "without sustainable access"	Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water
	-	-	new target related to Millennium Declaration safe water target, rescaled to 1990-2015	Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to basic sanitation

-	To have achieved, by the year 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers as proposed in the "Cities Without Slums" initiative	Millennium Declaration, without specific reference to "Cities Without Slums" initiative	By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers
-	To make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases	deleted (related indicators but no target)	-
-	To intensify our collective efforts for the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests	deleted (related indicators but no target)	-
-	To press for the full implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity	deleted (no indicator or target)	-
-	To press for the full implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa	deleted (no indicator or target)	-

	-	To stop the unsustainable exploitation of water resources by developing water management strategies at the regional, national and local levels, which promote both equitable access and adequate supplies	deleted (related indicators but no target)	-
	-	To intensify cooperation to reduce the number and effects of natural and manmade disasters	deleted (no indicator or target)	-
	-	To ensure free access to information on the human genome sequence	deleted (no indicator or target)	-
<b>Global Partnership</b>	-	We are committed to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and nondiscriminatory multilateral trading and financial system	Millennium Declaration, with phrasing of "develop further" instead of "committed to", without reference to "equitable" or "multilateral", and with addition of vague, oddly-placed statement on good governance	Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system  Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction – both nationally and internationally

	-	<p>We also undertake to address the special needs of the least developed countries. ... We call on the industrialized countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To adopt, preferably by the time of the [Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in May 2001], a policy of duty- and quota-free access for essentially all exports from the least developed countries</li> <li>• To implement the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries without further delay and to agree to cancel all official bilateral debts of those countries in return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction</li> <li>• To grant more generous development assistance, especially to countries that are genuinely making an effort to apply their resources to poverty reduction</li> </ul>	<p>Millennium Declaration, with context of global partnership instead of specific call on industrialised countries;</p> <p>with removal of past May 2001 preferred deadline for adoption of policy on duty- and quota-free access, with removal of "essentially all" describing eligible exports;</p> <p>with removal of "without further delay" for implementing debt relief, with removal of "all" from "cancel all official bilateral debts", with removal of explicit link to demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction for debt cancellation;</p> <p>and with rephrasing of "genuinely making an effort to apply their resources to poverty reduction" to "committed to poverty reduction" in qualifying for more generous ODA</p>	<p>Address the special needs of the least developed countries</p> <p>Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction</p>
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-	We recognize the special needs and problems of the landlocked developing countries, and urge both bilateral and multilateral donors to increase financial and technical assistance to this group of countries to meet their special development needs and to help them overcome the impediments of geography by improving their transit transport systems	Millennium Declaration, with change from "recognize" to "address", with removal of reference to "problems", and with removal of specific appeal to bilateral and multilateral donors	Address the special needs of landlocked countries
-	We also resolve to address the special needs of small island developing States, by implementing the Barbados Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly rapidly and in full. We urge the international community to ensure that, in the development of a vulnerability index, the special needs of small island developing States are taken into account	Millennium Declaration, with removal of "rapidly and in full" describing implementation of the cited agreements, and removal of reference to a "vulnerability index"	Address the special needs of small island developing States (through the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly)
-	We are also determined to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term	Millennium Declaration, with minor rephrasing and removal of explicit reference to "low- and middle-income" countries	Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term

-	To develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work	Millennium Declaration, with addition of reference to "developing countries", placement in the context of a "global partnership", and removal of "everywhere"	In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth
-	To encourage the pharmaceutical industry to make essential drugs more widely available and affordable by all who need them in developing countries	Millennium Declaration, with reframing from "encourage the pharmaceutical industry" to "in cooperation with pharmaceutical companies", with rephrasing from "to make essential drugs more widely available and affordable" to "provide access to affordable essential drugs", and removal of "by all who need them"	In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries
-	To ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, in conformity with recommendations contained in the ECOSOC 2000 Ministerial Declaration, are available to all	Millennium Declaration, with rephrasing from "ensure that the benefits... are available to all", to "in cooperation with the private sector, make available...", and removal of reference to ECOSOC 2000 Ministerial Declaration	In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications
-	To develop strong partnerships with the private sector and with civil society organizations in pursuit of development and poverty eradication	deleted (no indicator or target)	-

	-	To take special measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, including debt cancellation, improved market access, enhanced Official Development Assistance and increased flows of Foreign Direct Investment, as well as transfers of technology	deleted (related indicators but no special target)	-
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**N.B.** The above table does not review the Millennium Declaration goals related to peace, security, disarmament, human rights, democracy, good governance, civilians in complex emergencies, refugees, and children's rights, as none of these issues are addressed in the MDGs.

## Appendix VIII - Comparison of MDGs and Millennium Summit Numerical Targets

### A - Global Targets

Based on the available data, the differences at the international level should we reach the numerical targets of the MDGs instead of the numerical targets unanimously adopted at the Millennium Summit, are:

- 32% more people in absolute poverty
- 14% more people suffering from hunger
- 50% more people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water
- 16% more deaths of children under 5 years of age
- 8% more maternal deaths

### B - Bangladesh Targets

At the national level, assuming Bangladesh adopts the global average targets as national targets, the differences between the standards of the MDGs and those of the Millennium Summit would mean:

- 18% more people in absolute poverty
- 31% more people suffering from hunger
- 83% more people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water (of a relatively smaller number)
- 80% more deaths of children under 5 years of age
- 51% more maternal deaths