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The Yearbook Express features Yearbook chapter introductions, along with the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, for each year in question.

YEARBOOK OF THE UNITED NATIONS, 2007

Volume 61

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Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

Chapter I Introduction

1. This, my first annual report, comes at a time when the Member States and the peoples of the world are asking the United Nations to do more—in more spheres of activity, in more locations, in more challenging circumstances—than at any point in the Organization’s history. While the surging demand for our services is daunting, we must not shrink from this challenge. Indeed it should be welcomed. This is a sign not only of the many pressing needs in the world today, but also of the increasing recognition that they can best be addressed collectively, through the world’s only truly universal instrument, the United Nations.

2. In order to tackle effectively the full range of challenges coming our way, however, we will need to narrow the gap between aspiration and achievement. Enhancing our ability to deliver results consistently and effectively will require the full commitment of our Member States, as well as the reform and reorientation of the Organization.

3. My initial reform proposals have focused on creating a new structure to better support our fastest growing area, peace operations in the field. The United Nations is engaged in 18 peacekeeping operations and 13 other field missions and offices. We now have an historic high of over 100,000 personnel in the field, with indications that this could grow significantly in the coming months as new and expanded missions come on line. This is a major operational challenge, especially given that the growth is occurring in some of the most challenging places in the world. While it is encouraging that the General Assembly has now approved my proposals to create new structures for field support, we are just beginning the necessary work to strengthen our capacity to manage and sustain peace operations at this scale around the world.

4. When it comes to the reform of the Organization, we will need to be ambitious while at the same time focused and disciplined. We will also need to maximize the tremendous potential of our biggest asset—a diverse and dedicated staff. To fully leverage this key asset, we must build a staff that is truly mobile, multifunctional and accountable, with more emphasis on career development and training. And it means holding all United Nations employees to the highest standards of integrity and ethical behaviour, both at Headquarters and in the field.

5. We must also ensure that we maximize the potential of our entire United Nations system. I hope that we can build consensus among the Member States to implement the important proposals to enhance system-wide coherence that are on the table, as well as to explore further ways to turn “delivering as one” from a slogan into a reality.

6. Reform is not an end in itself. It is a means to achieve our ends—serving the peoples of the world, all peoples. We can and we must deliver hope to those who need it most. First and foremost this will entail delivering results on the promise of the Millennium Development Goals. The Millennium Development Goals have become the shared framework for development and are a concrete indicator of the international system’s ability to set and follow through on practical targets in the fight against extreme poverty. The year 2007 marks the halfway point towards the Millennium Development Goals, agreed by all the world’s Governments as a road map to a better world by 2015. Some countries and regions are farther behind than others. The Millennium Development Goals can be achieved if immediate steps are taken to implement existing commitments. Reaching our goals for development around the world is not only vital to building better, healthier and decent lives for millions of people, it is also essential to building enduring global peace and security. We must use the year ahead to re-envision and revitalize our efforts.

7. Delivering hope also entails ensuring respect of human rights and providing the humanitarian services for which the United Nations has become so well known. The new Human Rights Council must move with alacrity to re-establish a credible intergovernmental human rights process. We must also mobilize ourselves to address the needs of the global population of refugees and internally displaced persons. Nowhere is the human rights and humanitarian situation more challenging than Darfur. Nowhere is the need for hope more acute. Since taking office, I have made the tragedy of Darfur a top priority. The continuing conflict in Darfur has put at stake not only innocent lives and the moral imperative to protect them, but also the credibility of the United Nations. We must act now to put an end to the suffering of the people of Darfur by bringing together all our resources to establish security, facilitate a durable political solution, bring an end to impunity, and meet the monumental humanitarian needs. We will be measured not by our aspirations, but rather by the results we deliver.

8. The United Nations is also called upon, and is uniquely positioned and able, to protect the global commons. In particular, I am convinced that climate change, and what we do about it, will define us, our era, and ultimately our global legacy. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has unequivocally affirmed the warming of our climate system, and linked it directly to human activity. I believe this is just the kind of global challenge that the United Nations is best suited to address. I am gratified by the universal recognition that the United Nations climate process is the appropriate forum for negotiating future global action. Now, we need a comprehensive agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that tackles climate change on all fronts, including adaptation, mitigation, clean technologies, and resource mobilization. All countries must do what they can to reach an agreement by 2009, and to have it in force by the expiry of the current Kyoto Protocol commitment period in 2012. To this end we must spare no effort.

9. It is important to remember that the United Nations can do its job properly only with partners. We will need to forge even closer ties with civil society, foundations, academic institutions, the media, labour unions, and the private sector. Each has unique contributions to make.

10. The United Nations plays an indispensable role in the wider quest for a peaceful, prosperous and just world. Let us, together, do all we can to make this quest a reality for the peoples of the world.

Chapter II Development

11. The year 2007 marks the mid-point between the adoption of the Millennium Declaration and the 2015 deadline for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Evidence indicates that despite uneven progress the Goals remain achievable if existing commitments are met. Yet the scourge of HIV/AIDS is draining national capacity and resources in the fight against human deprivation. We cannot win the fight for development if we do not stop and reverse the spread of HIV. Africa remains a priority, as it suffers more than its share of the destitution caused by poverty, disease and violent conflict, and lags behind the rest of the developing world in achieving the Goals. The Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals cannot be achieved, however, if we do not tackle climate change. We cannot wait any longer. We must face the challenges of mitigation and adaptation and we must do so now. We need to agree on a post-2012 framework and we must then translate commitments into action. I will continue to spare no effort to ensure that the benefits and the challenges of globalization are shared equally by our own and future generations.

The Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals

12. At the halfway point in the quest to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the number of people living in extreme poverty has fallen to just under one billion. Many countries, particularly in South and East Asia, are achieving rapid poverty reduction.

13. Yet almost 10 million children die each year before their fifth birthday, mostly from preventable causes, such as diarrhoea or malaria. Some 72 million children do not receive even basic primary education, and half a million mothers die in childbirth every year. Despite some progress, the crisis remains most severe in sub-Saharan Africa, where several countries are not on track to achieve a single Millennium Development Goal. Some middle-income countries are struggling to eliminate pockets of extreme poverty, and most other developing countries face challenges in meeting some of the Goals. Pervasive challenges include poor governance, poor access to health care and reproductive health services, rapid and unplanned urbanization, deforestation, water scarcity, gender inequalities, rising rates of HIV/AIDS infection, and youth unemployment. The adverse impact of climate change falls disproportionately on poor tropical countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, and will therefore hinder the achievement of the Goals.

14. This mass deprivation is a scar on the conscience of the world. Existing tools, resources and commitments could end extreme poverty, and the United Nations and its Member States remain determined to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals by 2015. To this end, I have made the Goals a central priority for my term as Secretary-General. In June, I launched the Millennium Development Goal Africa Steering Group as a major high-level initiative that will also mobilize the international system to support the implementation of the Goals.

15. With another seven years to go, the Goals remain achievable in the vast majority of countries if Member States implement existing commitments. At the 2005 World Summit, all Governments committed themselves to implementing comprehensive national development strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals. Trade and all forms of development finance, including official development assistance for poor countries, remain important in advancing the Goals. At the International Conference on Financing for Development, in 2002, donor countries resolved to earmark 0.7 per cent of their gross national income to official development assistance. In 2005, the European Union committed itself to reaching this official development assistance target by 2015, and the Group of Eight, at the Gleneagles Summit, promised to double aid—with an increase of \$50 billion per year by 2010, of which \$25 billion per year would be for Africa alone. At the Heiligendamm Summit the G-8 also committed \$60 billion towards fighting HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The United Nations and all stakeholders must now focus on implementing those commitments.

16. Achieving the Millennium Development Goals will benefit all stakeholders. Applying proven tools to meet them will lift hundreds of millions of people out of extreme poverty and save the lives of millions of children. Extreme poverty drives conflict and instability, hence achieving the Goals lowers the risk of war and maintains peace in fragile countries. Success will also save critical ecosystems and biodiversity on which human well-being depends. Finally, a true international partnership in support of the Goals will help to close fissures that cut across the world community today and endanger collaboration around shared goals. All of this makes the Goals too important to fail.

17. Countries are demonstrating that rapid and large-scale progress towards the Millennium Development Goals is possible when strong government leadership, good policies and practical strategies for increasing public investments are combined with adequate financial and technical support from the international community. Progress on the Millennium Development Goals is a national priority only where efforts to achieve them are

led and managed nationally. Hence, the United Nations prioritizes the strengthening of national capacity as our core contribution to achieving the Goals.

18. I am particularly impressed by the achievements of African States: Malawi has launched the African Green Revolution by raising agricultural productivity; primary school enrolment increased in Ghana, Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania; Zambia has improved access to basic rural health services; the Niger demonstrates the feasibility of large-scale reforestation; and Senegal is on track to meeting the water and sanitation Goal. Progress has been particularly impressive in malaria control: the free distribution of bednets in the Niger, Togo and Zambia has led to a dramatic fall in the incidence of malaria. The Millennium Village initiative shows that community leadership and integrated strategies to operationalize the Millennium Development Goals produce dramatic results in a short period of time.

19. Most countries are ready to replicate these success stories at the national scale, and many have approached the United Nations for support. I am encouraged that with United Nations support some 40 African countries are carrying out detailed assessments of the investments and capacity development required for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The slow rate of increase in official development assistance, however, hinders the full implementation of these practical strategies. Despite the commitment to double aid to Africa by 2010, actual official development assistance to the continent, excluding debt relief and humanitarian aid, has barely increased since 2004. No country in sub-Saharan Africa receives the promised resources to implement a national development strategy to achieve the Goals. In addition, aid remains too project-driven and unpredictable for countries to effectively plan the scaling-up of essential public investments. Donors now need to meet their aid commitments to finance Millennium Development Goal-based development strategies and support the national-scale quick-impact initiatives agreed to at the 2005 World Summit. During 2007 and 2008, every donor should provide recipient countries with timelines for aid increase until 2010, so that countries can plan their budgets and macroeconomic frameworks accordingly.

20. To ensure that all countries can benefit from international trade as a key driver of long-term economic development, Doha Development Round negotiations must be concluded expeditiously, with a meaningful development package. This should include eliminating all forms of export subsidies and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support, ensuring improved market access, and enhancing special and differential treatment. In addition, an increase in the aid-for-trade resources, including a significantly enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries, will strengthen the capacity of developing countries to participate in the international trading system.

21. Ours is the generation that can achieve the development goals and free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty. As the cost of inaction is mounting every day, I shall spare no effort in pursuing these goals.

HIV/AIDS

22. At its High-level Meeting on AIDS, on 2 June 2006, the General Assembly declared the goal of moving towards universal access to HIV prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010, thereby strengthening the commitments made by Governments in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS of 2001 and endorsing the new target of universal access to treatment by 2010 agreed at the 2005 World Summit. Ensuring such access is critical to achieving the Millennium Development Goal of halting, and beginning to reverse, the spread of HIV among women, men and children by 2015.

23. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) continues to assist countries in defining and achieving universal access, including helping to set national

targets, developing national capacity to design and implement AIDS plans, ensuring the best use of resources, and increasing the involvement of civil society and the private sector in the AIDS responses.

24. So far, 92 countries have set national targets and 36 have translated these into costed and prioritized national plans. To support implementation of those plans, UNAIDS has established five regional technical support facilities, placed monitoring advisers and social mobilization officers in over 50 countries, and actively facilitated implementation of the “Three Ones” principles (one HIV/AIDS action framework, one national AIDS coordinating authority, one country-level monitoring and evaluation system).

25. To reinvigorate HIV prevention efforts, UNAIDS and other relevant stakeholders developed and released, early in 2007, guidelines on enhancing HIV prevention. In March 2007, UNAIDS and the World Health Organization (WHO) published recommendations on male circumcision as part of comprehensive HIV prevention packages. In addition, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and WHO are engaged in a major effort to improve prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has increased support to “harm reduction programmes” for injecting drug users. The United Nations Population Fund supported 27 countries in improving HIV prevention for young people most at risk and out of school. The International Labour Organization trained key national partners in 16 countries to support workplace action on AIDS. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization supported 70 countries in the area of education and AIDS and involved 29 countries in the Global Initiative on Education and HIV and AIDS (EDUCAIDS). The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees established essential HIV interventions in emergency settings.

26. By the end of 2006, 2.2 million people living with HIV in low- and middle-income countries were receiving antiretroviral treatment, or 28 per cent of the estimated 7.1 million people in need. UNAIDS played a critical role in the scaling-up of those services. More than 30 countries received WHO technical support for national treatment improvement. The World Food Programme assisted 32 countries in developing and implementing food and nutrition components within national AIDS plans. Sixty-four World Bank projects are strengthening health system capacity, including laboratory services, and training health-care workers. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) assisted 28 countries in the development and implementation of trade policies for sustainable access to AIDS medicines.

27. Addressing the gender component of the AIDS epidemic is also a priority. It is estimated that about half of the world population living with HIV are women. In June 2007, UNAIDS released a set of gender assessments of national AIDS responses, which indicated that there is greater recognition that gender inequality and harmful gender norms are major drivers of the AIDS epidemic. Gender issues are still being inadequately addressed, however. Fighting stigma and discrimination, which inhibits the response to the epidemic, is also of tremendous importance.

28. In my address to the General Assembly on AIDS in May, I promised that AIDS will remain a system-wide priority for the United Nations and that I will make every effort to mobilize funding for the response to AIDS. To lead by example, I am also taking measures to ensure that the United Nations becomes a model workplace with regard to AIDS.

29. Now that the epidemic has already lasted 25 years, it has become clearer than ever that we must shift from an emergency footing to building a sustainable response over the longer term.

The special needs of Africa

30. In the Millennium Declaration, Member States devoted particular attention to Africa and pledged to support the consolidation of democracy on the continent and assist

Africans in their struggle for lasting peace, poverty eradication and sustainable development. There is encouraging progress to report regarding Africa's overall development. African States have continued with reforms to make their political systems more inclusive and based on open electoral processes. More African countries are participating in the African Peer Review Mechanism, whose main purpose is to promote better political, economic and social performance. Improvements in governance have been accompanied by sustained economic growth and better management of the economies in many African countries.

31. Notwithstanding these positive developments, the magnitude of the special needs of Africa remains daunting. Africa continues to lag behind the rest of the developing world in achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Extreme poverty, lack of health care and sanitation, environmental degradation, and civil conflict continue to blight the lives of millions of Africans. At the same time, diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS are responsible for nearly 4 million African deaths every year, and impede development in many countries. We need to strengthen our global partnership to reach the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in Africa, including through more and better aid, further debt relief, improved market access for African products, and fairer trade. As mentioned earlier in this report, I have established the Millennium Development Goal Africa Steering Group, which will mobilize the international system to support the implementation of the Goals. Four African countries, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Rwanda and the United Republic of Tanzania, are implementing an innovative United Nations pilot project for more coherent programme delivery at the country level.

32. One of the key roles of the United Nations is to support African institutions and capacities for conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. The African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development continue to strengthen comprehensive policy and institutional mechanisms for more effective intra-African action in these critical fields. The Declaration concerning United Nations-African Union cooperation adopted in November 2006, and the preparation of the ten-year capacity-building programme in support of the African Union will contribute to this effort. In 2006, the United Nations worked with the African Union and other partners in supporting the first democratic elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in more than 40 years. There has been extensive cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union on resolving the crisis in Darfur. In July 2007 the Security Council adopted an unprecedented resolution authorizing the deployment of a hybrid force for Darfur. It is essential that we deploy a mission which will make a positive difference in the lives of the people in that region. The Peacebuilding Commission's support for Burundi and Sierra Leone is critical to the ongoing effort to build sustainable peace in those two countries.

33. The United Nations work in Africa is strong, broad and deep. I am convinced that the Organization must continue to help African States and their peoples meet the critical challenges confronting the African continent.

Climate change and sustainable development

34. The year 2007 witnessed unprecedented momentum in the struggle to mitigate and adapt to climate change and to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of environmental sustainability. I have made climate change a key priority for the Organization because climate change threatens to create an environmental crisis of global proportions if it remains unchecked. In addition, overcoming climate change will contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 alongside the wider sustainable development goals agreed at the World Summit in 2005. It can also contribute to lowering the chances for conflict, as shown by a study published in June 2007 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the links between environmental degradation and tensions in the Sudan, including the region of Darfur, which highlighted the links between climate change and conflict.

35. The United Nations and its various organs and programmes and the specialized agencies have been contributing to awareness-raising, consensus-building, creative solutions and concrete actions on climate change. During 2007, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, established by UNEP and the World Meteorological Organization, published its fourth assessment report. The science is unequivocal—climate change is happening and there is high certainty that the cause is human activity.

36. The Panel's assessments of the likely impact on sustainable development and economies—from the melting away of glaciers and the loss of future river flows to more extreme weather events such as floods and droughts—helped to focus international attention and action on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The report ended on an optimistic note—combating climate change might cost as little as perhaps 0.1 per cent of global GDP annually over the next 30 years. The Panel also argued that in some sectors the savings as a result of greater energy efficiency are likely to have net positive effects on economies.

37. In 2007, the United Nations system intensified efforts to combat climate change on many fronts. The United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Nairobi in November 2006 put the spotlight firmly on the vulnerability of developing nations, in particular Africa and small islands. Among the many positive outcomes of the meeting was the Nairobi Framework and the launch of a collaborative effort by several agencies (UNDP, UNEP, the Secretariat of the Framework Convention, the World Bank and the African Development Bank) to build capacity in those developing countries that are not yet able to access the multi-billion dollar carbon market under the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol.

38. Adaptation to climate change and “climate-proofing” of economies emerged as a central theme in 2007. Several United Nations agencies have stepped up action to include climate in their development process and poverty alleviation strategies. The Nairobi Work Programme of the Framework Convention brings together many actors from the United Nations family to promote adaptation activities, to incorporate adaptation into all relevant policy areas and to foster assistance to developing countries in line with their needs. In addition, United Nations initiatives on mitigation and adaptation include catalysing the power of the financial markets. For example, the Africa Bankers' Carbon Finance Investment Forum held in May and organized by the United Nations in collaboration with regional banking institutions brought together countries and financiers to accelerate access to carbon markets and clean energy projects.

39. In the past year the United Nations has begun the “greening” of its operations and buildings. Some parts of the system are taking the lead in this area and the rest of the system must now join in the effort.

40. The annual World Environment Day celebrations contributed to raising global awareness and consensus on the need to act on climate change. Under the slogan “Melting Ice—A Hot Topic?”, UNEP issued a peer-reviewed report, *Global Outlook for Ice and Snow*, during the main celebrations hosted by Norway in Tromsø. The United Nations also participates in the International Polar Year, which runs until 2008. Here scientists are aiming to unravel some of the outstanding areas of concern, including the Greenland ice sheet and its potential impact on sea level rise.

41. My focus in the near term is the next Climate Change Conference, to be held in Bali, Indonesia, where a breakthrough is needed to reach agreement, launching a process towards a more comprehensive global response to climate change for the years after 2012. Trust and confidence-building is at the heart of the United Nations climate change work for a successful outcome that sets the world on track towards the emission reductions—up to 80 per cent—needed to stabilize the climate system. To this end, I will be convening a high-level event on 24 September 2007, in New York, to galvanize political will and advance progress towards a global agreement under the Framework Convention in Bali. A global

solution to climate change will require a global response. The way we address climate change will define the global legacy our era will leave to future generations.

Chapter III

Peace and security

42. The quest for a more peaceful and secure world is one of the main pillars of the work of the Organization. During the past year there has been a surge in the demands for United Nations conflict prevention and management, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. The Organization continues, moreover, to be in the forefront of the battle against international terrorism, and the struggle to contain the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. One of my first priorities since I took office has been that of adequately equipping the United Nations to face the challenges of our times. I am working to further build the necessary strategic partnerships to ensure the consolidation of peace and security and the strengthening of those institutions that can guide each and every Member State towards the peaceful resolution of disputes, democratic governance and the fulfilment of human aspirations. I remain convinced that there can be no development without peace and no peace without development, always in the spirit of respect for human rights and the fundamental freedoms of humankind.

Conflict prevention and peacemaking

43. Heavy demands were placed upon the United Nations in the past year in the area of conflict prevention and peacemaking. Perhaps the greatest test was once again in the Middle East. The situation in Iraq is causing widespread concern in the international community. The future of Iraq is vital to the stability of the region and the world. During the past year, the United Nations worked to foster regional engagement through initiatives including the International Compact with Iraq and continued to promote national reconciliation and consensus-building, in particular through support to the constitutional review process. We will continue to seek ways to assist Iraq through the challenges ahead. In Lebanon, the aftermath of the 2006 war saw political divisions deepen, rendering more difficult the fulfilment of various United Nations mandates in support of Lebanese sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence. In the Middle East, the United Nations continues to promote a comprehensive peaceful settlement and the realization of a two-State solution in the face of challenges including intra-Palestinian tensions.

44. Elsewhere in Asia there was more heartening news. In Nepal, progress was made towards resolving the conflict and its underlying causes; the United Nations Mission in Nepal was established at the request of the Nepalese parties to assist in the election of the Constituent Assembly and the political transition. The establishment at Ashgabat of a United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia will position the Organization to help strengthen democratic transitions and regional capacities for conflict prevention.

45. Asia also saw greater use of the Secretary-General's good offices, with renewed high-level dialogue between the United Nations and Myanmar, and the dispatch of an inter-agency fact-finding mission to Fiji following the coup in December 2006.

46. United Nations preventive diplomacy, good offices and mediation support to partners was also in evidence across much of Africa. Early in January 2007, I began using my good offices as Secretary-General to promote a solution to the crisis in Darfur. To that end, I attended the summits of the African Union in Addis Ababa in January and the Arab League in Riyadh in March, as well as a high-level meeting in Paris in June. The two summits yielded frank but constructive consultations with the Government of the Sudan. All three meetings helped to build international consensus and momentum for a reinvigorated political process, and agreement on both the heavy support package to the African Union

Mission in the Sudan and the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, which was ultimately authorized by the Security Council on 31 July.

47. Elsewhere in Africa, United Nations-facilitated talks between the parties on Western Sahara were initiated in June 2007, the first direct talks in six years. My Special Representative for West Africa, working closely with the Economic Community of West African States, contributed to stabilization in Guinea following civil disturbances early in 2007. In an effort to counter spillover from Darfur into Chad and the Central African Republic and to promote inclusive political dialogue in the latter country, a high-level United Nations delegation visited the Central African Republic and several of its neighbours in December 2006.

48. In northern Uganda, my Special Envoy for the Lord's Resistance Army-Affected Areas worked with regional actors to reinvigorate peace talks. A joint African Union-United Nations initiative was launched to advance the political process in Darfur. The United Nations also continues to support the implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, signed in December 2006. In addition, my Special Representative for Somalia was active in encouraging an inclusive process of national reconciliation.

49. In Central America, an agreement was reached between the Secretariat and the Government of Guatemala in December 2006 to establish an international commission against impunity. Elsewhere, difficulties remain. In Cyprus, despite numerous meetings held by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General with envoys of the Greek Cypriot leader and the Turkish Cypriot leader, the Agreement of 8 July 2006 has yet to be implemented.

50. Finally, a dedicated mediation support capacity within the Department of Political Affairs has, despite its small size, begun to provide advice and support to United Nations and non-United Nations mediators, including in some of the aforementioned cases. An online databank of peace agreements and guidance for envoys was launched late in 2006 and I expect a standing team of mediation specialists to be operational by the end of 2007. This additional capacity should prove crucial in several different areas where there is a need for the preventive diplomacy and peacemaking work of the United Nations.

Peacekeeping

51. The past year has witnessed a surge in peacekeeping activity not only in numbers but also in complexity. At the beginning of 2006, United Nations peacekeeping supported 18 peace operations and 13 other field missions and offices, involving approximately 85,000 deployed personnel. By August 2007, this number had grown to over 100,000 personnel, without counting the highly complex African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur. The current annual budget for United Nations peacekeeping is approximately \$5.6 billion, which represents one half of 1 per cent of global military spending.

52. Among the myriad challenges faced by United Nations peacekeeping during the past year was the situation in the Sudan and its spillover effects into Chad and the Central African Republic. While the main focus of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) has been to monitor and actively support the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 2005, the crisis in the Darfur region of the Sudan and international efforts to resolve it increasingly preoccupied UNMIS, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and myself since I assumed the office of Secretary-General. The establishment of new missions in Darfur, Chad and the Central African Republic will send a clear and powerful signal of our commitment to improve the lives of the people of the region. Another challenge facing United Nations peacekeeping was the Kosovo status talks and the eventual transition of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo. Numerous consultations between the authorities in Belgrade and the representatives of the

Provisional Institutions of Self-Government of Kosovo were held prior to my submission of a comprehensive proposal for a settlement of Kosovo's status to the Security Council in March 2007. That proposal formed the basis for consultations of the Security Council on the future status of Kosovo.

53. In terms of the Organization's more traditional peacekeeping role, the deployment with unprecedented speed of United Nations peacekeepers to Lebanon following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1701(2006) in August 2006 was an important milestone for United Nations peacekeeping. It made possible the withdrawal of the Israel Defense Forces and, for the first time in 40 years, the deployment of Lebanese Armed Forces personnel throughout southern Lebanon, including down to the Blue Line. The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) continued to cooperate closely with the Lebanese Armed Forces with a view to consolidating the new strategic military and security environment in southern Lebanon, and to prevent violations of the Blue Line and maintain the cessation of hostilities. UNIFIL has created a stable operational area as a basis for international efforts to revitalize the political process leading to a permanent ceasefire.

54. During the past year, of the 110 countries that sent uniformed personnel to United Nations peacekeeping missions, the leading contributors were Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, which together constitute more than 40 per cent of United Nations peacekeepers. I welcome the sizeable deployment of European Blue Helmets to Lebanon, considering that previously less than 6 per cent of all United Nations peacekeepers had come from Europe. The 7,000 European troops pledged to UNIFIL more than doubled the total number of military troops from European and NATO countries in all United Nations peacekeeping missions.

55. United Nations peacekeeping operations are also mandated to support the restoration and enhancement of essential services, revitalize and provide support to stalling peace processes and help to tackle the root causes of conflict. These multidimensional mandates are pursued in environments that are often volatile and insecure, where peacekeepers may be resisted by factions and armed groups that remain outside the established peace process. Such incidents have occurred in many of our current peacekeeping operations, such as those in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lebanon and the Sudan. In 2006 and 2007, 85 United Nations peacekeepers died in the field, in the cause of peace.

56. Maintaining security during the post-conflict transitional phase and addressing threats to public order was also a critical aspect of United Nations peacekeeping operations in the past year. In Timor-Leste, an immediate task of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste during the initial months was to ensure the restoration and maintenance of public security through interim law enforcement by international police, while conducting a screening process for the national police. In Haiti, a reform plan for the Haitian National Police was elaborated in coordination with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), and adopted by the Government of Haiti. Joint security operations conducted by MINUSTAH and the Haitian National Police contributed to the improvement in the security environment in Port-au-Prince. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while elections were held in a generally calm environment, on 20 August 2006 violence broke out in Kinshasa shortly before the announcement of the provisional results of the presidential election. This escalated over the course of two days into clashes between the security guards of the main presidential candidates. The rapid military and police intervention of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the European Union operation, together with concerted diplomatic efforts, contributed to the restoration of law and order, which paved the way for a largely peaceful second round of presidential elections.

57. The growing number of similar incidents requiring United Nations intervention demonstrates the central importance of control over security institutions to build a legitimate state. Enhancing national capacity and institutions particularly in the security sector is a

long-term process involving political commitment on the part of national stakeholders and the support of the international community, especially donors. A critical aspect of this process is fostering national and local ownership of reforms intended to limit the role of the military in internal security, ensure that all security forces are under civilian control, and meet basic standards of accountability, transparency and respect for human rights. The operational record for strengthening the capacity of national security institutions has been mixed. In Sierra Leone there has been a measure of national ownership for reforming the military and the police, although I am concerned about its self-sustainability in the absence of continuing and long-term international technical and financial support. Similar problems faced Liberia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which are in the early stages of security sector reform. Security sector reform has also been less successful in Afghanistan, where the war against the Taliban and other anti-Government elements has forced security agencies to play a larger-than-ideal role in the attempt to provide internal security.

58. United Nations support for the electoral process has continued to be a critical and generally successful aspect of many peacekeeping operations. United Nations peacekeeping operations also continued to help advance complex and fragile transitional processes in Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone and Timor-Leste, through supporting the holding of successful elections and the installation of new Governments.

59. The main challenge in the post-electoral period is the institutionalization of a multi-party democratic system that provides for inclusive, transparent and accountable governance. Elections open a window of opportunity for countries to escape from the cycle of political instability, violence and poverty, and to demonstrate that the legitimacy of an elected government is derived not solely from the ballot box but rather from its ability to provide impartial security and deliver basic social services to all. In Liberia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Timor-Leste and Haiti, the United Nations peacekeeping missions, together with the United Nations country teams, worked closely with the elected Governments to support the establishment of broad-based administrations. Special attention was given to measures to address the strengthening of national institutions, enhancing public accountability for Government expenditure and revenue collection, and the reform of the security sector, which generally constitute critical benchmarks for the exit strategy of peacekeeping missions from a country.

60. Enhancing strategic partnerships with multilateral and regional organizations has become a high priority for the burden-sharing of peacekeeping. The deteriorating security situation in Darfur and the difficulties faced by the African Union Mission in the Sudan (AMIS) required the United Nations to provide vital logistical support to AMIS. On 12 June 2007 in Addis Ababa, the Government of the Sudan agreed to a joint African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur and on 31 July 2007 the Security Council approved the establishment of a force of nearly 20,000 military personnel and more than 6,000 police officers. I welcome this breakthrough, which followed protracted negotiations, and I remain personally committed to working with the African Union. Building on the successful experience of European Union assistance to the United Nations support for elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, I agreed in a joint statement with the Presidency of the European Union on 7 June 2007 to reinforce our shared commitment and explore further areas and modalities of collaboration. I also maintain close cooperation with NATO in Afghanistan and Kosovo.

61. The increasing complexity and growing challenges faced by United Nations peacekeeping have stretched the capacity of the Organization to address the problems in the field. I am therefore grateful to Member States for expeditiously approving my proposals aimed at strengthening the capacity of the United Nations to mount and sustain peacekeeping operations in an era when the demand for Blue Helmets has reached an all-time high. These include the restructuring of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations; the establishment of a separate Department of Field Support, headed by an Under-Secretary-General; a major augmentation of resources in both departments and in other parts of the

Secretariat; and new capacities as well as integrated structures to match the growing complexity of mandated activities and to ensure unity of command and integration of effort.

62. At the same time the Organization continued in its efforts to comprehensively address issues of misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse. There are now dedicated conduct and discipline capacities in the 18 peace operations. During the year progress was made in establishing strategic partnerships within the United Nations system and with external actors to ensure a response to the victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations personnel. Among key achievements was the endorsement by several United Nations and non-United Nations entities of the Statement of Commitment on Eliminating Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations and non-United Nations Personnel issued in December 2006, which prioritizes 10 key actions including practical measures on prevention and response.

Peacebuilding

63. To support fragile societies recovering from the devastation of war, prevent the relapse into conflict, and address the gaps in peacebuilding, the Member States at the 2005 World Summit created the new peacebuilding architecture made up of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Fund and the Peacebuilding Support Office.

64. During its first year of operation, the Commission focused its efforts on the challenges to building sustainable peace in Burundi and Sierra Leone and began to develop key organizational and procedural methods for its work. With the support of the Commission and the United Nations, the Government of Burundi identified challenges and threats to the consolidation of peace. The strategic framework developed for Burundi now helps to guide the Government's engagement on peacebuilding issues with all stakeholders in the country and the international community. The Government of Sierra Leone, with support from the United Nations and the Commission, is now developing its integrated peacebuilding strategy, which will undergo further refinement after elections in the country.

65. The Peacebuilding Support Office was established to support the Commission and advise me on catalysing and convening the system to develop and implement effective peacebuilding strategies. It oversees the operation of the Peacebuilding Fund and will improve coordination within the Secretariat and the United Nations around peacebuilding issues to ensure the most effective Secretariat support to the Commission. The Office is now operational and staffed so that it can serve its mandate to support the Commission, which includes responsibilities for convening relevant actors to launch strategic discussions on priorities and engagements related to peacebuilding, and gathering lessons learned on peacebuilding to assist in the Commission's work. The Peacebuilding Support Office also works with outside entities, donors and institutions to ensure that the Commission receives broad and appropriate advice and support.

66. The Peacebuilding Fund was launched to operate as a rapidly disbursing, emergency peace fund for countries emerging from conflict. Its use is to catalyse and encourage longer-term engagements by development agencies and donors. Early in 2007, I declared Burundi and Sierra Leone eligible to receive support from the Fund, and set aside envelopes of \$35 million for each country. Financing is already supporting critical peacebuilding activities that reflect the priorities agreed between the Commission and those countries, and work is under way to declare further countries eligible for Fund support in the near future.

67. There have been some important accomplishments over the first year, but more must be done. The founding resolutions recognize that the international community should draw on the lessons of the past, pay sustained attention to countries emerging from conflict, and ensure predictable financing for early recovery. These priorities must be addressed. Further, peacebuilding is crosscutting and involves myriad actors, and I will ensure

improved coordination while avoiding duplication in the United Nations system. The entire system, at Headquarters and especially in the field, will continue to offer its full support to peace consolidation efforts. I am determined to ensure that in the years to come peacebuilding efforts will become central in the peace and development agenda of the Organization.

Combating terrorism

68. The threat of terrorism to international peace, security and development remains a pressing issue for the international community. The expansion of United Nations efforts on counter-terrorism has produced a unique tool, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted by the General Assembly in September 2006. The unanimous endorsement of this document marks an historic step, bringing together all 192 Member States to demonstrate their resolve and ability to defeat the scourge of terrorism.

69. The Strategy outlines a coordinated, consistent and comprehensive response to terrorism at the national, regional and global levels, while ensuring respect for human rights and the rule of law. It puts forward a concrete plan of action to prevent and combat terrorism and to address grievances and underlying social, economic and political conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. The Strategy will have the greatest success if it is fully implemented. I believe that this goal can be achieved by strengthening the capacity of Member States and the United Nations system, and by seeking the involvement of civil society and the private sector. The main responsibility for implementing the Strategy falls on Member States. Nonetheless, various Secretariat departments, specialized agencies, and United Nations programmes and funds contribute to this important endeavour by assisting Member States with their implementation efforts.

70. Since the adoption of the Strategy, the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, which brings together 24 entities of the United Nations system, has worked on the system-wide implementation efforts and provided implementation support to Member States. The Task Force has developed a short-term work plan which identifies a number of potential actionable parts of the Strategy and corresponding concrete initiatives for which the United Nations system can produce tangible results. The initiatives include addressing radicalization and recruitment to terrorism, responding to the needs of victims, protecting vulnerable targets, addressing the link between conflict prevention/resolution and terrorism, tackling the financing of terrorism, and countering the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes.

71. As one means of facilitating cooperation between the United Nations and other major actors, the Task Force launched in January 2007 a Counter-Terrorism Online Handbook, which makes available for Member States and United Nations partners, as well as for the general public, a database of the counter-terrorism-related work and resources of the United Nations system.

72. As a testament to the commitment of the international community to combating terrorism, the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism came into force in July 2007. It is an important legal instrument for common international action against terrorism. I trust that the Member States will be just as determined to finalize a comprehensive convention on international terrorism as they have been in addressing this challenge.

73. The year following the adoption of the Strategy proved that strategic partnerships among Member States, the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and civil society are crucial. Only by working together can we succeed in our common endeavour to create a more secure world where terrorism no longer threatens the sanctity of life.

Disarmament and non-proliferation

74. From my first day in office, I stressed that the failure and deadlock that have characterized major forums and instruments in the areas of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation for the past few years have underlined the clear need to revitalize the international disarmament agenda through coordinated efforts in which the United Nations should play a more effective role. On 15 March 2007, by resolution 61/257 on strengthening the capacity of the Organization to advance the disarmament agenda, the General Assembly supported my proposal to establish an Office for Disarmament Affairs, led by a High Representative. Focusing on specific challenges, the Office will deepen its engagement with Member States, intergovernmental organizations and civil society.

75. Weapons of mass destruction, especially nuclear weapons, as well as ongoing tests of delivery systems capable of carrying such weapons, continue to be of primary concern. There is insufficient progress in nuclear disarmament, and a lack of universal adherence to International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards agreements, and there are cases of non-compliance. Nuclear tests were conducted again in 2006, and the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty faces continuing difficulty. However, the new review cycle for the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has made an encouraging start and I am grateful to States parties for their joint efforts to ensure that multilateralism central to the Treaty will not be undermined.

76. Regarding the Korean peninsula, I welcome the positive developments in the six-party talks in 2007, marking an important step towards denuclearization. A negotiated solution concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran would strengthen the international non-proliferation regime and would restore the international community's trust that the country's nuclear programme is peaceful. I am satisfied that the Organization remains united on the need for peaceful resolution of the nuclear issues in the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

77. Intensified work in the past year in the Conference on Disarmament to solve long-standing disagreements over its priorities has raised high hopes of a turning point in multilateral disarmament diplomacy. Progress is within reach, which would allow Member States to move forward on the negotiation and timely conclusion of a treaty banning the production of fissile material, as well as on the issues of outer space and nuclear disarmament within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament.

78. In 2006, the General Assembly launched a new process for an arms trade treaty, the first formal step towards developing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional weapons. In relation to the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects, of 2001, I am encouraged that the Group of Governmental Experts on illicit brokering adopted in June 2006 a consensus report with concrete recommendations on promoting the development of national laws and regulations, enhancing information-sharing and cooperation among national authorities, and international cooperation and assistance for capacity-building.

79. The major challenges ahead relate to the need to strengthen multilateral norms for disarmament and arms regulation. The ultimate strategic goal of the United Nations is "general and complete disarmament under effective international control". This goal, deriving from the mandates on disarmament and arms regulation set out in the Charter of the United Nations, will require additional efforts to promote universal participation in multilateral treaties, their full and effective implementation, the establishment of new norms, and increased engagement with civil society.

Chapter IV

Human rights, the rule of law and humanitarian affairs

80. The fulfilment of the aspiration of every man and woman to live in freedom and dignity rests in the protection and promotion of the universal values of human rights, the rule of law and democracy. The international community has made considerable progress in advancing human rights standards and mechanisms. In 2005, world leaders embraced the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. We must continue to dedicate our energies to the challenge of implementation. Furthermore, too many people are still denied the right to live in dignity, displaced in their attempts to escape the violence of natural and man-made catastrophes. Those violations undermine the foundations of security and development throughout the world. I am determined to continue to step up efforts to equip the Organization and support Member States in their efforts to consolidate the respect for human rights, the rule of law and democracy.

Rule of law

81. The rule of law is a fundamental principle on which the United Nations was established. The United Nations goal continues to be a community of nations operating according to rules that promote human rights, human dignity and the settlement of international disputes through peaceful means. International criminal justice, a concept based on the premise that the achievement of justice provides a firmer foundation for lasting peace, has become a defining aspect of the work of the Organization.

82. The International Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda continued, during 2006, to conduct the trials of those accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide. The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia charged the first defendant for crimes against humanity and placed him in detention. The Special Court for Sierra Leone commenced the trial of Charles Taylor and rendered two historic judgements which convicted five defendants of war crimes, crimes against humanity and, significantly, the conscription of child soldiers as a violation of international humanitarian law. As concerns the cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court, I will continue the policy of assisting and supporting the International Criminal Court in its endeavours, in all respect for the independent character of that important international institution.

83. On 29 March 2006, by resolution 1664(2006), the Security Council requested my predecessor to negotiate with the Government of Lebanon an agreement aimed at establishing a tribunal to bring to justice those accused of the attack that killed the former Prime Minister of Lebanon, Rafiq Hariri, and 23 others. The Security Council adopted resolution 1757(2007) on 30 May 2007, regarding the establishment of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. The provisions of the annex to the resolution and the statute of the Tribunal entered into force on 10 June 2007. Since that date, I have been taking steps and measures necessary for the establishment of the Special Tribunal in a timely manner.

84. A number of United Nations actors provide assistance in the rule of law in a range of fields at the national level. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes support the development of legal institutions in post-conflict societies, recognizing that the rule of law is fundamental to long-term and sustainable peacebuilding. Countries with developing institutions have also requested United Nations support, and the Organization is finding that demand continues to rise for its technical assistance and capacity-building activities.

85. In order to better coordinate the work of this diverse set of institutions, at the end of 2006, my predecessor, in his report entitled "Uniting our strengths: enhancing United Nations support for the rule of law" (A/61/636-S/2006/980 and Corr.1), announced the establishment of a Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group. The Group consists of the leaders of the major rule of law assistance providers in the United Nations system, who

meet to ensure that programmes are carried out in a coherent manner and are of a high quality commensurate with the need of those requesting the support. The Group is undertaking initiatives to identify areas of synergy, and to facilitate cooperation and coordination among the various United Nations entities providing rule of law assistance.

86. It is important that the United Nations not just promote the rule of law for Member States but that it ensure that the rule of law is applied within the Organization. To that end, the General Assembly is considering reforms put forward through the Secretariat to strengthen the United Nations internal justice system, and the Security Council continues to examine the efficiency and credibility of the Organization's sanctions regime.

Human rights

87. The past year has been momentous for human rights with the inauguration of the Human Rights Council in June 2006. Since its inception, the Council has focused on developing the architecture of its future institutions. The year-long institution-building efforts led to the adoption by consensus in June 2007 of a package of reforms, including the establishment of a universal periodic review mechanism by which the Council is meant to examine the situation of human rights in all countries. I expressed concern at the Council's decision to single out only one specific regional item in its agenda and through its special sessions, given the range and scope of allegations of human rights violations throughout the world. The review holds great promise to strengthen the universality as well as the interdependence, indivisibility and interrelatedness of all human rights as we mark the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 2008.

88. The Council has also reviewed the system of special procedures, which my predecessor, in an assessment I fully share, described as the "crown jewel" of the international human rights protection system. In its first year, the Council adopted a code of conduct for the mandate holders, which is expected to bring greater clarity and consistency to their work. In the second year, the Council is expected to assess individual mandates and identify protection gaps where the system can be strengthened.

89. Over the past year, milestones were reached in respect of several important new human rights treaties. The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment entered into force in June 2006. In addition, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance were adopted in December 2006.

90. Bold steps are now being taken by the international community to end grave violations against children affected by armed conflict. The monitoring and reporting mechanism called for by the Security Council in its resolution 1612(2005) has been established in 12 countries, focusing on six categories of grave violations against children. I have submitted numerous country-specific reports on this issue to the dedicated working group of the Security Council on children and armed conflict, with specific recommendations to address the situation of children. The working group, the United Nations system, and the concerned parties to conflict have acted upon my recommendations in a number of these situations.

91. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has been working to meet the greatly increased demand for support to the year-round meetings of the Human Rights Council and the new human rights treaty bodies. Meanwhile, OHCHR has also pursued its own transformation. Implementation of its first biennial strategic management plan to realize the vision contained in the High Commissioner's plan of action has proceeded apace to strengthen the country engagement, leadership and thematic expertise of the Office, as well as its partnerships with other United Nations entities, civil society and other stakeholders.

92. In 2006, the Office of the High Commissioner endeavoured to strengthen its field presences. It operated 11 country offices, including a newly opened office in Togo and seven regional offices, and reached agreement with the Government of Bolivia to open a new office in that country, as well as an agreement with the Government of Panama to establish a regional office for Central America in Panama City.

93. More than 400 human rights officers are now posted to United Nations peace missions around the world so as to integrate human rights into their work and report on human rights challenges. Furthermore, the creation of a rapid response unit at OHCHR headquarters has permitted a more effective response to sudden deteriorations in human rights situations on the ground.

Democracy and good governance

94. The United Nations continues to foster democracy and good governance, not only through its assistance in the holding of credible elections, but through a wide range of activities to promote democratic institutions and practices. These include support for independent judiciaries and parliaments, strong national human rights policies and institutions, transparency and accountability in government, civic education, free expression, and vibrant civil societies with opportunities for participation. In this regard, electoral processes are increasingly considered not as an end in themselves but as a bridge to peacebuilding and sustainable development. The implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption has become a special priority for the United Nations system in improving the quality of governance in its Member States.

95. Although the past year saw the scaling-down of several large and complex electoral operations, including operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and Liberia, the United Nations made a major contribution to the holding of historic parliamentary, presidential and provincial assembly elections in July and October 2006 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

96. Meanwhile, the volume of technical electoral assistance to Member States continued to increase. More than 30 technical assistance projects were launched during the past year, mainly through UNDP. United Nations electoral assistance is often provided, moreover, in complex political environments. In the case of Mauritania, following the advice of the United Nations, the national authorities put specific measures in place that contributed to the credibility of a constitutional referendum and parliamentary and local elections in 2006, and presidential elections in 2007.

97. As countries enter the post-conflict phase, the focus of United Nations assistance often shifts to consolidating the experience gained by newly created electoral institutions. An example is Liberia, where in September 2006 the United Nations Mission in Liberia handed over responsibility for long-term United Nations electoral assistance to UNDP.

98. The Sixth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, held in Doha from 29 October to 1 November 2006, reaffirmed a common commitment to democratization on the part of the 100 Governments, 69 parliaments and 97 civil society organizations which took part. An advisory board and a nucleus secretariat were established to assist the Chair of the Conference in implementing the decisions of the Conference.

99. The United Nations Democracy Fund has begun to make its mark. During its first year of activities it funded 122 projects out of 1,300 proposals submitted. The projects are implemented in partnership with diverse national actors. The Fund's activities encouraged transparency in government and supported national human rights institutions, civic education, electoral systems and processes, as well as political parties. There was a major focus on the participation of youth and women in decision-making, 62 per cent of submitted proposals containing a significant gender component and 37 per cent explicitly promoting women's rights and gender equality.

100. Despite these positive developments, however, efforts to expand democratic governance still face significant challenges. Many countries continue to limit fundamental freedoms, and Governments face problems of public sector efficiency, transparency and accountability. Women are playing a growing role in building democracy, but in the top leadership positions their numbers remain limited. Indigenous peoples and marginalized groups are also often excluded from power. Moreover, without vigorous democratic participation, official accountability, and strengthened institutional capacity, Governments are unlikely to deliver on their commitments to achieve the Millennium Declaration, including the Millennium Development Goals, and other internationally agreed development goals.

Humanitarian affairs

101. Over the course of the past year, numerous crises across the globe underlined the need for a more predictable and effective humanitarian response. The United Nations system has sought to address these concerns in a comprehensive, forward-looking manner. Two issues warrant particular attention: improving the protection of civilians, and increasing the global investment in disaster risk reduction and response preparedness given the impact of climate change.

102. There were positive developments in several long-standing emergencies, including those in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nepal and northern Uganda. Nevertheless, protracted conflicts in Darfur, the Middle East, Somalia and Sri Lanka continued to cause widespread suffering, violence, abuse and displacement for millions, primarily women and children. Meanwhile, disasters resulting from natural hazards, including heavy flooding in Bangladesh, Mozambique, Pakistan and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, continued to take a heavy toll on lives and livelihoods.

103. In Darfur, still the world's largest humanitarian operation, violent attacks against civilians including rape, coupled with the destruction of livelihoods, have displaced almost 520,000 civilians since June 2006, bringing today's total to 2.2 million internally displaced persons. This is in addition to more than 230,000 people from Darfur who have sought refuge in Chad, and 173,000 Chadians displaced within Chad itself. More than 12,300 aid workers, primarily Sudanese, are trying to provide humanitarian assistance to 4.2 million people in need.

104. Overall, the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo remained the world's most deadly, with 4 million casualties since 1998 resulting primarily from disease, hunger and displacement.

105. In Somalia, an upsurge in fighting between clan militias and government forces backed by Ethiopian troops forced more than 400,000 people to flee Mogadishu. Approximately 71,000 new Somali refugees have sought refuge in neighbouring countries since June 2006. Renewed fighting in Sri Lanka has displaced an estimated 184,000 people during the same period, bringing the total number of displaced to 437,000. About 103,000 people have recently returned home in eastern Sri Lanka.

106. In the Middle East, violent conflict continues to extract a heavy toll in human lives and to tragically affect the daily lives of ordinary people. In the summer of 2006, military strikes in Lebanon and Israel displaced more than a million people in Lebanon and 300,000 in Israel. Approximately 8 million Iraqi civilians are now in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, including more than 2.2 million internally displaced and more than 2 million taking refuge primarily in the Syrian Arab Republic and Jordan.

107. In 2007, the global refugee population continues to increase, owing primarily to refugee flows from Iraq. According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees there are now an estimated 10 million refugees in the world, excluding Palestinian refugees in the area of operations of the United Nations Relief and Works

Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. Globally, there are now 24.5 million internally displaced persons.

108. Since mid-2006, 406 natural disasters have affected 227 million people and resulted in \$40.6 billion in economic damage. Weather-related disasters accounted for 85 per cent of all reported disasters, and affected millions across wide swathes of Asia and Africa, killing 18,411 people and inflicting more than \$29.4 billion in economic losses.

109. Looking forward, the trend towards more frequent incidence and greater severity of natural disasters is likely to continue. Climate change, urbanization, rising population density and displacement contribute to this trend. The United Nations and its partners will continue to support the affected Governments and communities in meeting their humanitarian needs.

110. Safe, unhindered access for humanitarian workers is fundamental to humanitarian operations. Unfortunately, both access and security have declined significantly since June 2006, with grave consequences for those communities reliant on a humanitarian lifeline. In the past 14 months, 24 aid workers were killed in Sri Lanka—21 in 2006 and 3 in the first half of 2007. Another 17 were killed in Darfur. More than 115 humanitarian vehicles were hijacked in Darfur during the period. Daily attacks, including assaults, banditry and other violence, targeting aid workers further limited humanitarian access. At times, nearly 1 million people in Darfur have been cut off from assistance. Humanitarian access to most of Iraq and key areas of Afghanistan, Somalia and the occupied Palestinian territory has also been severely limited.

111. Efforts to strengthen the United Nations humanitarian system proceeded on three fronts. The Central Emergency Response Fund, launched in March 2006 and backed by strong donor support, marked a significant step forward in improving the speed and predictability of funding for rapid-onset and neglected crises. As at mid-August 2007, the Emergency Relief Coordinator had committed \$471.6 million from the Fund to 557 urgent, life-saving projects in 50 countries. The cluster approach to improved sectoral leadership and capacity was implemented in a dozen humanitarian emergencies, while training and other efforts were launched to bolster the humanitarian coordinator system. The year also saw a renewed focus on building partnerships among United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, other international organizations and the private sector.

112. Demands for humanitarian assistance are likely to grow in the coming years, as are the challenges involved in providing it. I have called upon all Member States to increase their support for humanitarian action accordingly. The United Nations and its humanitarian partners are committed to assisting Governments in preparing for and responding to these challenges.

Chapter V

Strengthening the United Nations

113. Every day we are reminded of the need for a strengthened United Nations, as we face a growing array of new challenges, including humanitarian crises, human rights violations, armed conflicts and important health and environmental concerns. Seldom has the United Nations been called upon to do so much for so many. I am determined to breathe new life and inject renewed confidence into a strengthened United Nations firmly anchored in the twenty-first century, and which is effective, efficient, coherent and accountable.

The intergovernmental machinery

114. During the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, Security Council reform remained one of the most debated issues. The President of the Assembly, assisted by six

facilitators, led a thorough consultations process during which the members were able to review this important matter in all its aspects. This process resulted in the submission to the President by the facilitators of two reports, on 19 April and 26 June 2007. Both reports reaffirmed the commitment expressed by world leaders in the 2005 World Summit Outcome to pursue Security Council reform as an integral part of the ongoing United Nations reform process, and concluded that the status quo is not acceptable to an overwhelming majority of the Member States. The main recommendation of the reports is that the Member States consider an “intermediary approach”, as a “compromise solution” with a view to unblocking the process. It is important that Member States continue their efforts to reach agreement on this important outstanding issue on the reform agenda.

115. On 2 August 2007, the General Assembly adopted by consensus resolution 61/292 on revitalizing the role and authority of the General Assembly and strengthening its performance. The resolution focuses on the need to implement previous resolutions on the revitalization of the General Assembly. In this regard, the holding of four informal thematic debates during the sixty-first session on partnerships towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals: taking stock, moving forward; gender equality and the empowerment of women; civilizations and the challenge for peace: obstacles and opportunities; and climate change as a global challenge offered the members excellent opportunities to debate some of the most pressing challenges facing the international community. I shall continue to lend the necessary support to Member States in their efforts to further strengthen the work of the Assembly.

116. During the high-level segment of its substantive session, in July 2007, the Economic and Social Council successfully conducted the first-ever annual ministerial review of progress in the implementation of development goals and targets and launched the Development Cooperation Forum, as mandated by the 2005 World Summit and the General Assembly in its resolution 61/16. These two new functions will help to make the Council a platform for greater accountability, coherence and coordination in meeting the development commitments. Also during the substantive session of 2007 the first Innovation Fair was held, at which organizations of the United Nations system, private sector entities and non-governmental organizations showcased their innovative approaches and projects for the eradication of poverty and hunger. The newly strengthened Council will better enable the Organization to take effective steps towards the realization of the global partnership for development; this represents an important landmark in advancing the implementation of the United Nations development agenda.

The Secretariat

117. At the 2005 World Summit the Member States reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening the United Nations with a view to enhancing its authority and efficiency, as well as its capacity to address effectively the full range of challenges of our time. In subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly on reform of the United Nations, Member States have consistently placed a premium on strengthened accountability in the Organization, including greater accountability of the Secretary-General to the Member States, for the effective and efficient implementation of legislative mandates and the use of human and financial resources.

118. The Member States have also called for improved managerial performance, including improvements in work processes, greater transparency and oversight, and the highest standards of ethical conduct among staff. In addition, Member States have reaffirmed the principle set out in the Charter of the need for the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity as paramount considerations in the employment of staff, with due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

119. When I took my oath of office, I firmly stated my commitment to a stronger capacity of the Organization to deliver more effectively. This is also why I placed emphasis

on a strengthened capacity to manage and sustain peacekeeping operations. I also strongly affirmed my commitment to a more transparent and accountable Secretariat, and the highest levels of efficiency, competence and integrity. This is why both myself and the Deputy Secretary-General have led by example and made public our financial disclosures. The good name of the United Nations rests on our individual and collective commitment to the highest ethical standards. Under the Ethics Office we are committed to implementing new policies and training initiatives in order to foster a working climate steeped in a culture of ethics, transparency and accountability.

120. I am committed to strengthening the accountability framework which you the Member States have requested and which I have identified as a priority. The Deputy Secretary-General has been engaged on my behalf in a process of meeting with each of my senior managers on their performance compacts. This is the first time that the Secretariat has engaged in a consultative process on the compacts. I see this exercise as an opportunity for us to forge a new relationship of commitment to performance and of building teamwork and mutual support.

121. I am reviving the full range of internal tools such as the Management Performance Board and the Management Committee, which Member States have welcomed as a means of strengthening the accountability framework. These mechanisms are also good vehicles for building a greater sense of awareness, sensitivity and across-the-board managerial commitment to accountability.

122. These are all critical components for ensuring adequate institutional follow-up to the recommendations of the oversight bodies and for keeping the momentum of reform on track, in a coherent and coordinated manner. The latter will be particularly critical in the months ahead as we seek to deliver and manage the proposed improvements in the following areas: systems of internal controls, risk management and accountability framework; the human resource base of the Organization, through enhanced mobility, training and career development; a new system of internal justice; and the synchronization of the enterprise resource planning system and the transition to the new International Public Sector Accounting Standards, which will facilitate the changeover to more modern business processes and practices improving, inter alia, the quality and credibility of financial reporting.

123. Taken together, these proposed changes will have the cumulative effect of positively transforming the human resource base of the Organization, enhancing the managerial decision-making tools, and allowing for better financial controls and more accurate and timely management reporting.

Cooperating with regional organizations

124. I attach great importance to strengthening United Nations cooperation with regional organizations, and have been working closely with them on issues ranging from peace and security to climate change and the Millennium Development Goals. I also fully share the commitment of my predecessors to the holding of high-level meetings with the heads of regional organizations, seven of which have been held since 1994. At the same time, I am reassessing the process in order to refocus the meetings so that they can add more practical value.

125. I have continued to work with the Security Council and the General Assembly in enhancing cooperation with regional organizations. At its sixty-first session the General Assembly adopted 21 resolutions containing requests for cooperation in the areas of international peace and security, development, the environment and disarmament. The various departments of the Secretariat are in the process of implementing those mandates.

126. In addition, following its debate in March 2007 on the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and

security, the Security Council, in a presidential statement (S/PRST/2007/7), requested a report on specific proposals on how the United Nations can better support arrangements for further cooperation and coordination with regional organizations under Chapter VIII of the Charter. I am closely consulting with regional organizations in the preparation of my report to the Council.

System-wide coherence

127. The United Nations could perform far better in delivering on its vision and mission. The Organization is fragmented, especially at the country level, and it lacks synergy at the global level. I believe the report of the High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment (see A/61/583) has produced thought-provoking and far-reaching proposals to address these shortcomings.

128. In assessing the Panel's proposals in my report (A/61/836), I expressed my support for the principle of a stronger, more coherent United Nations. I support the recommendations contained in the Panel's report, which will enable the Organization to support the efforts of national Governments to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals. I also mentioned that we need to place the Panel's recommendations firmly within the context of the wider United Nations reform agenda to allow us to take full advantage of existing processes.

129. I have consulted widely with the Member States and the President of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, who has established a process to review the recommendations of the Panel's report with the support of two Co-Chairs, the Ambassadors of Barbados and Luxembourg. Building consensus around a process which will lead to the implementation of the main clusters of recommendations in the Panel's report is critical.

130. As we reach the mid-point to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, it is important that we redouble our efforts to create a United Nations that is better able to address the challenges of our times. How we improve the ability of the United Nations to deliver in development, humanitarian assistance and the environment affects millions of men, women and children around the world who depend on us to meet their basic human needs.

131. I look forward to working closely with Member States and intergovernmental bodies and will support the implementation of the Panel's recommendations. We need to move forward with a common vision for a more coherent United Nations system, capable of delivering as one to meet the needs and expectations of the peoples around the world.

Chapter VI Global constituencies

132. An ever-increasing number and variety of non-governmental actors are making important contributions in international affairs. Over the past year cooperation with civil society and the private sector has continued to develop in response to today's complex political, economic, social, humanitarian, human rights and environmental challenges. The United Nations must of necessity work closely with global civil society, since non-governmental organizations are increasingly important for the achievement of its goals. We can anticipate that the engagement with civil society will continue to grow, which will require a flexible approach by the Organization.

Strengthening ties to civil society

133. The United Nations engagement with civil society has been an important component in the work of the Organization and continues to grow. During the past year, the United Nations system continued to engage in many ways and on a wide range of subjects with civil society, both in meeting rooms and in the field.

134. The Members of the United Nations have increasingly come to realize the key role of civil society in addressing the challenges facing the international community. Further to the three interactive hearings held in the past year with civil society on AIDS, the least developed countries, and migration and development, civil society also took part in the informal thematic debates hosted by the sixty-first President of the session of the General Assembly. In addition, civil society and non-governmental organizations intervened in 2007 in the newly created annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council and the Development Cooperation Forum round tables in July, and presented their initiatives and experiences in the fight against poverty and hunger at the first Innovation Fair, held during the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council. The United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in 2006, allowed members of non-governmental organizations to actively participate in the review process, including by presenting their perspectives on the outcome document during Member States' negotiations.

135. In 2006, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations conferred consultative status with the Economic and Social Council on 155 non-governmental organizations. The number of civil society organizations in consultative status with the Council has now reached 3,050. At the Seventh Global Forum on Reinventing Government, hosted by the United Nations at Vienna at the end of June 2007, there was a strong call on Member States to support the participation of civil society as a full partner in governance.

136. In the field, civil society plays a critical role in the operational activities of many United Nations entities and has knowledge, experience and reach that are difficult to match by the United Nations. For example, the World Food Programme alone saw an increase in the number of civil society partners from 2,274 in 2005 to 3,255 in 2006.

137. The United Nations Office for Partnerships serves as a gateway to civil society organizations, as well as companies, foundations and others, to build partnerships with these constituencies to achieve global international goals. The Office routinely provides advice on partnerships in a broad range of sectors including biodiversity, climate change, education, health, telecommunications, water and sanitation, and world heritage. The Office has also facilitated United Nations-led advocacy in the areas of human security, including trafficking, urban poverty, gender-based violence and human rights.

138. During the first month of my tenure as Secretary-General, I stated that “no United Nations development effort—whether advocacy for a broad cause or support for specific goals—can make real headway without support from civil society”. We must all continue to ensure that the voice of this essential constituency will be heard at the global level, and work to achieve a better regional balance of international civil society organizations at United Nations meetings.

Engaging the business community

139. Across the United Nations system, engagement with the private sector continues to gain importance. Such cooperation—in the areas of philanthropy, partnership projects, and the application of universal values in business operations—is increasingly viewed throughout the system as an effective method of advancing the Organization's priorities. Common goals, such as building markets, combating corruption, safeguarding the

environment and ensuring social inclusion, have resulted in unprecedented partnerships and openness.

140. In the past year, the joint United Nations-business agenda has gained new scale through the United Nations Global Compact and the Global Compact Leaders Summit, which I was honoured to chair at the United Nations Office at Geneva in July 2007. Bringing together 1,000 leaders from all sectors, the Summit demonstrated that organizing business practices around universal principles is a winning proposition. Fresh impetus was given to practical United Nations-business initiatives focused on areas such as development, education, financial markets and water. Ultimately, the Leaders Summit bolstered the case for system-wide United Nations-business engagement by showing the ability of corporate responsibility and cross-sector cooperation to contribute enormously to the goals of the United Nations.

141. Improving the capacity of the United Nations to act in partnership with business remains an important area for action. While good progress has been made in the past year, challenges continue in areas including the effective sharing of experiences across the system and increased staff capacity to engage with the private sector. The United Nations must continue to explore how to maximize engagement with business, while safeguarding the Organization's integrity and improving its accountability.

Chapter VII

Conclusion

142. As this report makes clear, the United Nations is engaged with a range of pressing global issues in every part of the world today. This sustained engagement reflects the breadth and depth of our commitment to achieving a safer, more just and prosperous world. It also amply demonstrates the necessity and the promise of effective multilateralism.

143. The year ahead promises continued high demand for the United Nations and the many services we provide. Of the many old challenges that we face today, the one which affects the greatest number of men, women and children is poverty. We live in an age in which there is unprecedented wealth and widespread deprivation. This is why it is vital this coming year, at the halfway point of the Millennium Development Goal calendar, to refocus and revitalize our efforts to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals are indeed achieved for all by 2015. An area that will require special efforts is that of global health. As global health has become a more visible and universally recognized need, new players and new money have emerged in recent years, but major coordination constraints remain and more needs to be done on health systems.

144. Strengthening peace operations must also feature prominently in the year ahead. Not only must we follow through and deepen the reforms to strengthen our support for field operations, we must also build on momentum in the area of peacebuilding and intensify our efforts to prevent conflict in the first place.

145. We also have the opportunity in the year ahead to consolidate gains in counter-terrorism by moving expeditiously to implement the landmark Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy adopted by the General Assembly in 2006.

146. In the case of disarmament, the challenge ahead is more fundamental. We must take initial steps to overcome the deadlock that has characterized the major disarmament forums and instruments in recent years.

147. The threat of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity continues to scar the conscience of humanity. In the coming year I hope we can make progress in operationalizing the historic agreement on the responsibility to protect made by leaders at the 2005 World Summit.

148. The United Nations is taking on, and must continue to take on, global challenges that no Government can tackle alone. There is none so acute as climate change. The coming

year will be decisive in putting us on the path to addressing the existential climate change challenge. We cannot miss this opportunity. The problems confronting the international community are daunting but I do not believe they are insurmountable. It is clear, however, that finding solutions to our common global problems depends on the collective effort of many actors, including the Member States, civil society and the private sector.

149. The world needs a renewed, revitalized and more responsive United Nations now more than ever. The Organization must be capable of responding swiftly and effectively to the challenges of our ever-changing world. We need to close the gap between rhetoric and reality. We will achieve this only if in the year ahead we can agree on fundamental reforms to transform the Organization's human resource base, enhance accountability, strengthen management performance, and adopt more modern business processes and practices.

150. As Secretary-General I will do everything within my power to uphold the solemn duty of the United Nations to pursue the aims enshrined in its Charter. Let us all strive to make the United Nations an Organization that can better meet the world's greatest needs and highest aspirations.

ANNEX I

Millennium Development Goals, targets and indicators, 2007: statistical tables

Goal 1

Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1 a day

Indicator 1

Population living below \$1 purchasing power parity per day^{a,b}

(Percentage)

	1990	1999	2004
Developing regions	31.6	23.4	19.2
Northern Africa	2.6	2.0	1.4
Sub-Saharan Africa	46.8	45.9	41.1
Latin America and the Caribbean	10.3	9.6	8.7
Eastern Asia	33.0	17.8	9.9
Southern Asia	41.1	33.4	29.5
South-Eastern Asia	20.8	8.9	6.8
Western Asia	1.6	2.5	3.8
Commonwealth of Independent States	0.5	5.5	0.6
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	<0.1	1.3	0.7

^a High-income economies, as defined by the World Bank, are excluded.

^b Estimates by the World Bank, April 2007.

Indicator 2

Poverty gap ratio^a

(Percentage)

	1990	2004
Developing regions	9.3	5.4
Northern Africa	0.5	0.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	19.5	17.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	3.5	3.0
Eastern Asia	8.9	2.1
Southern Asia	11.0	6.7
South-Eastern Asia	5.1	1.5
Western Asia	0.4	0.9
Commonwealth of Independent States	0.1	0.1
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	—	0.2

^a Measures the magnitude of poverty. Expressed as a percentage of the poverty line, it is the result of multiplying the proportion of people who live below the poverty line by the difference between the poverty line and the average income of the population living under the poverty line. High-income economies, as defined by the World Bank, are excluded.

Indicator 3

Share of poorest quintile in national consumption^a

(Percentage)

	1990	2004
Developing regions	4.6	3.9
Northern Africa	6.2	6.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.4	3.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	2.8	2.7
Eastern Asia	7.1	4.5
Southern Asia	7.2	6.7
South-Eastern Asia	6.2	6.1
Western Asia	5.9	5.4
Commonwealth of Independent States	7.9	6.2
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	8.3	7.8

^a High-income economies, as defined by the World Bank, are excluded.

Target 2

Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

Indicator 4

Prevalence of underweight children under 5 years of age

(a) **Total**

(Percentage)

	1990	2005
Developing regions	33	27
Northern Africa	10	8
Sub-Saharan Africa	33	29
Latin America and the Caribbean	11	7
Eastern Asia	19	7
Southern Asia	53	46
South-Eastern Asia	39	28
Western Asia	11	7
Oceania	—	—

(b) **By sex (1996–2005)**

(Percentage)

	Boys	Girls	Boy:girl ratio
Developing regions	27	28	0.96
Northern Africa	8	7	1.14
Sub-Saharan Africa	29	27	1.07
Latin America and the Caribbean	8	8	1.00
Eastern Asia	10	11	0.91
Southern Asia	43	46	0.93
South-Eastern Asia	28	28	1.00
Western Asia	14	14	1.00
Oceania	—	—	—

Indicator 5

Population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption

(No new global or regional data are available. Data are from the 2006 report.)

(Percentage)

	1990–1992	2001–2003
Developing regions	20	17
Northern Africa	4	4
Sub-Saharan Africa	33	31
Latin America and the Caribbean	13	10
Eastern Asia	16	12
Southern Asia	25	21
South-Eastern Asia	18	12
Western Asia	6	9
Oceania	15	12
Commonwealth of Independent States	7 ^a	7
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	16 ^a	20
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	4 ^a	3
Developed regions	<2.5 ^a	<2.5
Least developed countries	22	19
Landlocked developing countries	38	36
Small island developing States	23	19

^a Data refer to the period 1993–1995.

Goal 2

Achieve universal primary education

Target 3

Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

Indicator 6

Net enrolment ratio in primary education

(a) **Total**

(Primary- and secondary-level enrollees per 100 children of primary-education enrolment age)

	1990/91	1998/99	2004/05
World	82.5	85.0	88.8
Developing regions	80.2	83.5	87.9
Northern Africa	82.0	89.9	95.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	53.7	57.4	70.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	86.8	93.8	96.7
Eastern Asia	98.6	99.0	94.9
Southern Asia	74.5	81.3	90.0
South-Eastern Asia	93.8	91.8	93.8
Western Asia	80.8	84.9	86.4

Yearbook Express 2007

	1990/91	1998/99	2004/05
Oceania	74.6	80.6	78.4
Commonwealth of Independent States	90.3	87.1	91.7
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	88.6	93.0	94.0
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	91.1	82.8	89.6
Developed regions	97.3	97.3	96.6
Least developed countries	53.0	59.2	73.6
Landlocked developing countries	52.8	62.1	72.9
Small island developing States	68.3	82.8	82.3

(b) **By sex**

(Primary- and secondary-level enrollees per 100 children of primary-education enrolment age)

	1990/91		1998/99		2004/05	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
World	87.8	77.0	88.0	82.0	90.6	87.0
Developing regions	86.5	73.8	86.8	79.9	89.9	85.7
Northern Africa	89.0	74.7	93.0	86.6	97.4	93.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	57.6	49.9	60.5	54.3	73.1	67.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	87.6	86.5	94.4	93.2	96.6	96.7
Eastern Asia	100.5	96.6	98.2	99.8	94.9	94.9
Southern Asia	89.2	58.8	88.7	73.3	93.4	86.4
South-Eastern Asia	96.1	92.1	93.6	90.0	95.0	92.7
Western Asia	87.4	73.7	89.5	80.2	89.6	83.0
Oceania	78.2	70.6	82.7	78.3	82.1	74.4
Commonwealth of Independent States	90.6	90.1	87.6	86.6	91.7	91.6
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	88.9	88.3	93.5	92.5	94.4	93.6
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	91.3	90.9	83.3	82.2	89.3	89.8
Developed regions	97.2	97.4	97.3	97.2	96.3	96.8
Least developed countries	58.6	47.2	62.9	55.4	76.4	70.6
Landlocked developing countries	57.1	48.4	66.4	57.7	75.7	70.1
Small island developing States	64.4	72.3	83.5	82.0	83.8	80.7

Indicator 7a

Proportion of pupils starting grade one who reach last grade of primary

(No global or regional data are available.)

Indicator 7b

Primary completion rate^a

	1998/99			2004/05		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
World	82.8	85.8	79.7	87.6	89.8	85.1
Developing regions	80.4	84.0	76.7	86.0	88.6	83.4
Northern Africa	86.4	90.2	82.5	93.9	96.7	91.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	50.7	55.1	46.2	60.8	65.9	55.6

	1998/99			2004/05		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
Latin America and the Caribbean	96.2	95.7	96.7	98.5	97.5	99.5
Eastern Asia	101.8	101.6	102.0	100.1	100.3	99.8
Southern Asia	71.2	78.5	63.4	84.1	87.9	80.0
South-Eastern Asia	88.2	89.1	87.3	94.0	93.8	94.3
Western Asia	80.7	86.8	74.2	85.1	90.2	79.8
Oceania	64.5	65.2	63.7	61.4	64.8	57.7
Commonwealth of Independent States	93.3	93.8	92.8	97.1	97.4	96.8
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	97.7	98.3	97.2	101.6	102.2	100.9
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	90.9	91.3	90.5	93.8	93.8	93.7
Developed regions	98.7	98.1	99.3	97.7	98.7	96.7
Least developed countries	48.7	53.2	44.0	56.8	60.9	52.6
Landlocked developing countries	55.3	61.5	49.0	62.0	66.7	57.2
Small island developing States	73.5	73.2	73.9	76.0	76.3	75.7

^a Calculated through the gross intake rate at the last grade of primary school, as follows: total number of new entrants in the last grade of primary education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population of the theoretical entrance age to the last grade. *Global Education Digest 2004: Comparing Education Statistics across the World*. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics.

Indicator 8

Literacy rate of 15–24 years-olds: women and men^a

(Percentage who can both read and write)

	1984–1994			1995–2004		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
World	83.5	87.8	79.2	87.4	90.3	84.4
Developing regions	80.2	85.4	75.0	85.0	88.5	81.4
Northern Africa	66.7	76.7	56.3	84.3	89.9	78.4
Sub-Saharan Africa	64.4	71.0	58.4	67.8	72.2	63.8
Latin America and the Caribbean	93.7	93.3	94.2	96.0	95.6	96.5
Eastern Asia	94.5	97.1	91.8	98.9	99.2	98.5
Southern Asia	60.7	71.6	49.1	74.6	82.1	66.6
South-Eastern Asia	94.9	95.9	93.9	96.2	96.4	96.0
Western Asia	88.5	93.8	82.9	91.8	95.5	88.0
Oceania	73.0	75.3	70.6	72.8	74.9	70.5
Commonwealth of Independent States	99.7	99.7	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.8
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	99.7	99.7	99.7	99.8	99.8	99.7
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	99.6	99.7	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.8
Developed regions	98.7	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4	99.4
Least developed countries	56.3	64.0	49.1	62.3	67.9	57.1
Landlocked developing countries	60.3	66.4	54.8	63.6	67.5	60.2
Small island developing States	85.7	86.0	85.4	86.5	86.4	86.6

^a Regional averages are calculated using a weighted average of the latest available observed data point for each country or territory for the reference period. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics estimates have been used for countries with

missing data.

Goal 3 Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 4 Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

Indicator 9

Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education

(Gross enrolment ratios)

(a) **Primary**

	1991	1999	2005
World	0.89	0.92	0.95
Developing regions	0.87	0.91	0.94
Northern Africa	0.82	0.90	0.93
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.84	0.86	0.89
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.97	0.97	0.96
Eastern Asia	0.93	1.01	0.99
Southern Asia	0.76	0.82	0.93
South-Eastern Asia	0.96	0.96	0.97
Western Asia	0.83	0.87	0.91
Oceania	0.92	0.95	0.91
Commonwealth of Independent States	0.99	0.99	0.99
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	0.99	0.99	0.99
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	1.00	0.99	1.00
Developed regions	0.99	1.00	0.99
Least developed countries	0.79	0.85	0.89
Landlocked developing countries	0.82	0.83	0.89
Small island developing States	0.96	0.96	0.95

(b) **Secondary**

	1999	2005
World	0.91	0.94
Developing regions	0.89	0.93
Northern Africa	0.93	0.97
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.82	0.80
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.07	1.08
Eastern Asia	0.95	1.00
Southern Asia	0.74	0.83
South-Eastern Asia	0.97	1.01
Western Asia	0.81	0.84
Oceania	0.94	0.92
Commonwealth of Independent States	0.99	0.97
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	0.96	0.95

	1999	2005
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	1.00	0.97
Developed regions	1.00	1.00
Least developed countries	0.77	0.81
Landlocked developing countries	0.81	0.82
Small island developing States	1.06	1.04

(c) **Tertiary**

	1999	2005
World	0.96	1.05
Developing regions	0.78	0.91
Northern Africa	0.69	1.02
Sub-Saharan Africa	0.69	0.63
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.12	1.17
Eastern Asia	0.55	0.90
Southern Asia	0.63	0.74
South-Eastern Asia	0.92	0.99
Western Asia	0.82	0.89
Oceania	0.69	0.90
Commonwealth of Independent States	1.20	1.29
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	0.89	1.05
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	1.27	1.33
Developed regions	1.19	1.28
Least developed countries	0.57	0.63
Landlocked developing countries	0.74	0.85
Small island developing States	1.21	1.60

Indicator 10

Ratio of literate women to men, 15–24 years old

(No data presented, see endnotes).

Indicator 11

Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector

(Percentage)

	1990	1995	2000	2005
World	35.6	36.7	37.8	38.9
Northern Africa	19.8	19.8	18.6	20.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	28.0	29.1	30.3	31.6
Latin America and the Caribbean	37.2	38.6	40.4	42.1
Eastern Asia	37.8	38.8	39.5	40.5
Southern Asia	13.1	14.9	16.7	18.1
South-Eastern Asia	37.5	37.0	38.6	38.7
Western Asia	16.3	17.9	19.4	21.2
Oceania	28.5	31.7	35.2	37.8

	1990	1995	2000	2005
Commonwealth of Independent States	48.8	49.3	50.2	51.2
Developed regions	43.5	44.8	45.7	46.6

Indicator 12

Seats held by women in national parliaments^a

(Percentage)

	1990	1997	2002	2007 ^b
World	12.8	11.4	13.8	17.1
Developing regions	10.4	10.1	12.1	15.7
Northern Africa	2.6	1.8	2.2	8.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	7.2	9.0	12.0	16.6
Latin America and the Caribbean	11.9	12.4	15.7	20.5
Eastern Asia	20.2	19.3	20.2	19.5
Southern Asia	5.7	5.9	4.9	13.0
South-Eastern Asia	10.4	10.8	13.9	16.7
Western Asia	4.6	3.0	5.2	7.9
Oceania	1.2	1.6	2.4	2.6
Commonwealth of Independent States	—	6.2	8.6	11.5
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	—	7.0	8.8	10.4
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	—	5.4	8.4	12.4
Developed regions	16.3	15.6	19.1	21.8
Least developed countries	7.3	7.3	10.4	16.2
Landlocked developing countries	14.0	6.6	10.7	17.5
Small island developing States	15.2	11.3	14.2	19.1

^a Single or lower house only.

^b As at 31 January 2007.

Goal 4 Reduce child mortality

Target 5 Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-5 mortality rate

Indicator 13

Under-5 mortality rate

(Per 1,000 live births)

	1990	2005
World	95	76
Developing regions	106	83
Northern Africa	88	35
Sub-Saharan Africa	185	166
Latin America and the Caribbean	54	31
Eastern Asia	48	27

	1990	2005
Southern Asia	126	82
South-Eastern Asia	78	41
Western Asia	68	55
Oceania	80	63
Commonwealth of Independent States	49	40
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	81	72
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	27	17
Developed regions	12	6
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	29	17

Indicator 14

Infant mortality rate^a

(Per 1,000 live births)

	1990	2005
World	65	52
Developing regions	71	57
Northern Africa	66	30
Sub-Saharan Africa	110	99
Latin America and the Caribbean	43	26
Eastern Asia	37	23
Southern Asia	87	62
South-Eastern Asia	53	31
Western Asia	53	45
Oceania	59	47
Commonwealth of Independent States	39	33
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	67	60
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	21	14
Developed regions	10	5
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	25	14

^a Under age 1.

Indicator 15

1-year-old children immunized against measles^a

(Percentage)

	1990	2005
World	73	77
Developing regions	71	75
Northern Africa	85	95
Sub-Saharan Africa	57	64
Latin America and the Caribbean	76	92
Eastern Asia ^b	98	87
Southern Asia	57	65
South-Eastern Asia	72	80

	1990	2005
Western Asia	80	91
Oceania	70	63
Commonwealth of Independent States	85	98
Developed regions	84	93
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	93	96

^a Percentage of children 12–23 months of age who received at least one dose of measles vaccine.

^b Differences in the methods of calculating coverage in China from 1990 to 2005 account for most of the reported decrease.

Goal 5 Improve maternal health

Target 6 Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

Indicator 16

Maternal mortality ratio^a

(No new global or regional data are available. Data are from the 2005 report.)

	2000
World	400
Developing regions	450
Northern Africa	130
Sub-Saharan Africa	920
Latin America and the Caribbean	190
Eastern Asia	55
Southern Asia	540
South-Eastern Asia	210
Western Asia	190
Oceania	240
Commonwealth of Independent States	68
Developed regions	14

^a Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.

Indicator 17

Births attended by skilled health personnel (Percentage)

	1990	2005
World	47	59
Developing regions	43	57
Northern Africa	40	75
Sub-Saharan Africa	42	45
Latin America and the Caribbean	72	89
Eastern Asia	51	83
Southern Asia	30	38

	1990	2005
South-Eastern Asia	38	68
Western Asia	60	66
Oceania	—	—
Commonwealth of Independent States	99	98
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	97	93
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	99	99
Developed regions	—	—
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	96	98

Indicator 19c^a

Contraceptive prevalence rate^b

(Percentage)

	1990	2005
World	54.6	63.5
Developing regions	52.0	62.7
Northern Africa	41.7	59.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	12.3	21.3
Latin America and the Caribbean	62.4	71.5
Eastern Asia	77.9	89.4
Southern Asia	40.2	54.0
South-Eastern Asia	47.0	59.7
Western Asia	50.1	49.7
Oceania	—	—
Commonwealth of Independent States	—	—
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	50.4	60.5
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	62.7	63.3
Developed regions	69.8	68.4

^a This indicator was moved from goal 6 to goal 5, as agreed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goal indicators in March 2007.

^b Percentage of women aged 15–49 who are married or in union using contraception.

Goal 6

Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Target 7

Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

Indicator 18

HIV prevalence

(Percentage)

	1990		2002		2006	
	<i>Estimated adult (15–49) HIV prevalence</i>	<i>Adults (15+) living with HIV who are women</i>	<i>Estimated adult (15–49) HIV prevalence</i>	<i>Adults (15+) living with HIV who are women</i>	<i>Estimated adult (15–49) HIV prevalence</i>	<i>Adults (15+) living with HIV who are women</i>
Developing regions	0.3	47	1.1	50	1.1	50
Northern Africa	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	18	0.1	23

Yearbook Express 2007

	1990		2002		2006	
	<i>Estimated adult (15–49) HIV prevalence</i>	<i>Adults (15+) living with HIV who are women</i>	<i>Estimated adult (15–49) HIV prevalence</i>	<i>Adults (15+) living with HIV who are women</i>	<i>Estimated adult (15–49) HIV prevalence</i>	<i>Adults (15+) living with HIV who are women</i>
Sub-Saharan Africa	2.0	54	5.9	58	5.7	59
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.2	26	0.5	32	0.6	33
Eastern Asia	<0.1	15	0.1	22	0.1	28
Southern Asia	0.1	21	0.6	27	0.7	28
South-Eastern Asia	0.1	13	0.4	33	0.5	33
Western Asia	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	16	0.1	20
Oceania	<0.1	23	1.2	55	1.6	59
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	<0.1	^a	0.1	^a	0.2	25
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	<0.1	19	0.9	30	1.3	31
Developed regions	<0.1	16	0.5	30	0.7	30

^a Data not available; epidemics in this region are recent and no data are available for earlier years.

Indicator 19a

Condom use at last high-risk sex (1999–2005)^a

	<i>Women</i>		<i>Men</i>	
	<i>Number of countries covered</i>	<i>Percentage using condom</i>	<i>Number of countries covered</i>	<i>Percentage using condom</i>
Sub-Saharan Africa	24	28	24	43
Southern Asia	1	51	1	59
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	—	—	3	54

^a Percentage of women and men aged 15–24 reporting the use of a condom during sexual intercourse with a non-regular sexual partner in the past 12 months, among those who had such a partner in the past 12 months. Data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified.

Indicator 19b

Population aged 15–24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS (1999–2005)^a

	<i>Women</i>		<i>Men</i>	
	<i>Number of countries covered</i>	<i>Percentage with comprehensive knowledge</i>	<i>Number of countries covered</i>	<i>Percentage with comprehensive knowledge</i>
Sub-Saharan Africa	35	24	20	31
Southern Asia	1	21	1	17
South-Eastern Asia	3	18	—	—
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	5	6	—	—

^a Percentage of young women and men who correctly identify the two major ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV (using condoms and limiting sex to one faithful, uninfected partner), who reject two common local misconceptions and who

know that a healthy-looking person can transmit the AIDS virus. Data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified.

Indicator 20

Ratio of school attendance of orphans aged 10–14 years to school attendance of non-orphans (1995–2005)^a

	<i>Number of countries with data</i>	<i>School attendance ratio</i>
Sub-Saharan Africa	37	0.84

^a Ratio of the current school attendance rate of children both of whose biological parents have died to the current school attendance rate of children both of whose parents are still alive and who currently live with at least one biological parent. Data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified.

**Target 8
Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases**

Indicator 21

Incidence and deaths rates associated with malaria

(No global or regional data are available.)

Indicator 22

Children under age 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets and those with fever who are treated with appropriate antimalarial drugs

(a) Percentage sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets (1999–2006)

Sub-Saharan Africa (35 countries)	5
South-Eastern Asia (4 countries)	4

(b) Percentage with fever who are treated with antimalarial drugs (2000–2006)

Developing regions (46 countries)	22
Sub-Saharan Africa (36 countries)	40
Southern Asia (1 country, India)	12
South-Eastern Asia (5 countries)	2

Indicator 23

Incidence, prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)^a

(a) Incidence (number of new cases)

	<i>1990</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2005</i>
World	121	127	127
Developing regions	148	150	149
Northern Africa	54	50	44

	1990	2000	2005
Sub-Saharan Africa	148	253	281
Latin America and the Caribbean	100	68	57
Eastern Asia	116	106	101
Southern Asia	171	165	162
South-Eastern Asia	272	231	215
Western Asia	54	44	39
Oceania	201	186	179
Commonwealth of Independent States	51	111	109
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	60	104	116
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	48	113	107
Developed regions	26	19	16
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	61	84	79

(b) Prevalence (number of existing cases)

	1990	2000	2005
World	292	265	213
Developing regions	367	321	255
Northern Africa	59	53	44
Sub-Saharan Africa	331	482	490
Latin America and the Caribbean	156	98	76
Eastern Asia	319	267	204
Southern Asia	531	427	290
South-Eastern Asia	485	337	274
Western Asia	92	63	56
Oceania	590	457	341
Commonwealth of Independent States	83	163	137
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	100	139	140
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	78	171	136
Developed regions	31	22	16
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	102	123	88

(c) Deaths

	1990	2000	2005
World	27	26	21
Developing regions	34	31	25
Northern Africa	5	4	3
Sub-Saharan Africa	37	54	55
Latin America and the Caribbean	15	10	8
Eastern Asia	24	20	15
Southern Asia	44	40	29
South-Eastern Asia	66	46	33
Western Asia	8	6	6
Oceania	52	41	32

	1990	2000	2005
Commonwealth of Independent States	9	18	17
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	10	15	17
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	9	19	17
Developed regions	3	2	2
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	9	11	11

^a Excluding persons infected with HIV.

Indicator 24

Tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course (DOTS)

(a) New cases detected under DOTS
(Smear-positive case detection rate, percentage)

	2000	2005
World	28	60
Developing regions	29	61
Northern Africa	84	92
Sub-Saharan Africa	36	49
Latin America and the Caribbean	43	64
Eastern Asia	30	78
Southern Asia	15	58
South-Eastern Asia	39	73
Western Asia	34	31
Oceania	12	26
Commonwealth of Independent States	11	32
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	36	51
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	3	25
Developed regions	22	55
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	13	81

(b) Patients successfully treated under DOTS

(Percentage)

	2000	2004
World	82	84
Developing regions	82	84
Northern Africa	88	84
Sub-Saharan Africa	72	74
Latin America and the Caribbean	81	82
Eastern Asia	94	93
South Asia	83	86
South-Eastern Asia	86	87
Western Asia	80	83
Oceania	76	73
Commonwealth of Independent States	76	70
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	78	75

	2000	2004
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	68	62
Developed regions	76	68
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	85	83

Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 9 Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources

Indicator 25

Land area covered by forest

(No new global or regional data are available. Data are from the 2006 report.)

(Percentage)

	1990	2000	2005
World	31.3	30.6	30.3
Northern Africa	1.3	1.5	1.5
Sub-Saharan Africa	29.2	27.3	26.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	49.9	47.2	46.0
Caribbean	23.4	24.9	26.1
Latin America	50.3	47.5	46.3
Eastern Asia	16.5	18.1	19.8
Southern Asia	14.0	14.3	14.2
South-Eastern Asia	56.3	49.9	46.8
Western Asia	3.3	3.4	3.5
Oceania	68.3	65.0	63.4
Commonwealth of Independent States	38.6	38.7	38.6
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	3.9	3.9	3.9
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	46.6	46.7	46.7
Developed regions	30.4	30.7	30.8

Indicator 26

Terrestrial and marine areas protected^a

(Protected area as a percentage of total territorial area)

	1990	2000	2006	Total ^b
World	6.4	8.7	9.4	11.6
Developing regions	6.9	9.7	10.4	14.4
Northern Africa	2.6	3.4	3.8	4.1
Sub-Saharan Africa	8.6	9.1	9.4	12.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	9.2	13.3	14.5	21.2
Eastern Asia	7.2	10.2	11.2	16.5

	1990	2000	2006	Total ^b
Southern Asia	4.6	5.4	5.7	5.9
South-Eastern Asia	4.2	7.1	7.9	11.0
Western Asia ^c	3.8	18.1	18.2	18.3
Oceania	0.5	1.2	1.3	3.7
Commonwealth of Independent States	1.8	3.1	3.1	11.9
Developed regions	10.0	12.3	13.8	15.1
Least developed countries	7.5	8.4	8.5	11.0
Landlocked developing countries	8.3	10.9	11.0	12.3
Small island developing States	3.4	15.2	15.3	17.3

^a The ratios were calculated with new data on total territorial area and are therefore not comparable with data available in previous versions of the statistical annex.

^b Includes designated protected areas with unknown year of establishment up to and including year 2006.

^c The increase in figures for 2000 and 2006 are due to the establishment of a new large protected area in Saudi Arabia in 1994.

Indicator 27

Energy use per \$1,000 gross domestic product (purchasing power parity)

(No data presented; see endnotes.)

Indicator 28

Carbon dioxide emissions and consumption of ozone-depleting substances

(a) **Carbon dioxide emissions^a**

	Total (millions of tons)		Per capita (tons)	
	1990	2004	1990	2004
World	22 716	29 000	4.3	4.5
Developed regions	9 657	12 496	10.3	12.4
Developing regions	6 866	12 392	1.7	2.4
Northern Africa	227	476	1.9	3.2
Sub-Saharan Africa	462	676	0.9	0.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	1 095	1 430	2.5	2.6
Eastern Asia	2 924	5 603	2.4	4.0
Southern Asia	991	1 956	0.8	1.3
South-Eastern Asia	486	1 076	1.1	2.0
Western Asia	675	1 166	4.9	6.1
Oceania	6	8	0.9	0.9
Commonwealth of Independent States	3 207	2 357	11.4	8.4
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	506 ^b	430	7.6	5.8
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	2 701 ^b	1 928	12.6	9.4
Annex I countries ^c	14 634	14 667	13.0	12.4

(b) **Consumption of ozone-depleting substances^d**

(Tons of ozone-depleting potential)

	1990	2000	2005
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	1990	2000	2005
Developing regions	247 680	212 516	79 365
Northern Africa	14 034	10 826	5 294
Sub-Saharan Africa	23 406	9 512	2 958
Latin America and the Caribbean	76 048	31 087	14 488
Eastern Asia	103 217	105 762	36 663
Southern Asia	3 337	28 161	7 971
South-Eastern Asia	21 108	16 809	7 685
Western Asia	11 435	11 855	5 070
Oceania	47	129	27
Commonwealth of Independent States	139 453	27 585	1 160
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	2 738	928	234
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	136 716	26 657	926
Developed regions	826 801	24 056	10 352
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	6 239	964	408
Least developed countries	1 420	4 716	2 409
Landlocked developing countries	3 354	2 385	1 063

^a Includes emissions from solid fuel consumption, liquid fuel consumption, gas fuel consumption, cement production and gas flaring (United States Department of Energy, Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center).

^b Data are for 1992.

^c Based on the annual national emission inventories of annex I countries (with the exception of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, which are included in the Commonwealth of Independent States) that report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; non-annex I countries do not have annual reporting obligations. Excludes emissions/removals from land use, land-use change and forestry.

^d The differences compared with previous reports are due to a change in the treatment of missing values when deriving regional aggregates.

Indicator 29

Proportion of population using solid fuels

(No data presented; see endnotes.)

Target 10

Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

Indicator 30

Population using an improved drinking water source

(No new global or regional data are available. Data are from the 2006 report.)

(Percentage)

	1990			2004		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
World	78	95	64	83	95	73
Developing regions	71	93	60	80	92	70
Northern Africa	89	95	82	91	96	86

	1990			2004		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
Sub-Saharan Africa	49	82	36	56	80	42
Latin America and the Caribbean	83	93	60	91	96	73
Eastern Asia	71	99	59	78	93	67
Southern Asia	72	90	66	85	94	81
South-Eastern Asia	76	93	68	82	89	77
Western Asia	85	94	70	91	97	79
Oceania	51	92	39	51	80	40
Commonwealth of Independent States	92	97	84	92	99	80
Developed regions	100	100	99	99	100	95

Indicator 31

Population using an improved sanitation facility

(No new global or regional data are available. Data are from the 2006 report.)

(Percentage)

	1990			2004		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural
World	49	79	26	59	80	39
Developing regions	35	68	17	50	73	33
Northern Africa	65	84	47	77	91	62
Sub-Saharan Africa	32	52	24	37	53	28
Latin America and the Caribbean	68	81	36	77	86	49
Eastern Asia	24	64	7	45	69	28
Southern Asia	20	54	8	38	63	27
South-Eastern Asia	49	70	40	67	81	56
Western Asia	81	97	55	84	96	59
Oceania	54	80	46	53	80	43
Commonwealth of Independent States	82	92	63	83	92	67
Developed regions	100	100	99	99	100	98

Target 11

By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers

Indicator 32

Urban population living in slums^a

(Percentage)

	1990	2001	2005
Developing regions	46.5	42.7	36.5
Northern Africa	37.7	28.2	14.5
Sub-Saharan Africa	72.3	71.9	62.2
Latin America and the Caribbean	35.4	31.9	27.0

	1990	2001	2005
Eastern Asia	41.1	36.4	36.5
Southern Asia	63.7	59.0	42.9
South-Eastern Asia	36.8	28.0	27.5
Western Asia	26.4	25.7	24.0
Oceania	24.5	24.1	24.1
Commonwealth of Independent States, Asia	30.3	29.4	29.4
Commonwealth of Independent States, Europe	6.0	6.0	6.0

^a Represented by the urban population living in households with at least one of the following four characteristics: lack of access to improved drinking water, lack of access to improved sanitation, overcrowding (three or more persons per room) and dwellings made of non-durable material. The decrease in the percentage of populations living in slum conditions is mostly due to a change in the definition of adequate sanitation. In 2005, only a portion of households using pit latrines were considered slum households, whereas in 1990 and 2001 all households using pit latrines were counted as slum households. The change affects estimates mostly in those countries where the use of pit latrines is more widespread, as in sub-Saharan Africa.

Goal 8

Develop a global partnership for development

Target 12

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.

Target 13

Address the special needs of the least developed countries

Includes tariff- and quota-free access for least developed country exports; an enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous official development assistance for countries committed to poverty reduction.

Target 14

Address the special needs of landlocked developing 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)

Target 15

Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term

Official development assistance (ODA)

Indicator 33

Net ODA of Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/Development Assistance Committee (OECD/DAC) donors

(a) Annual total assistance

(Billions of United States dollars)

	1990	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 ^a
All developing countries	52.7	58.3	69.1	79.4	106.8	103.9
Least developed countries	15.2	15.9	22.5	23.5	25.6	—

(b) Share of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income

(Percentage)

	1990	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 ^a
All developing countries	0.33	0.23	0.25	0.26	0.33	0.30
Least developed countries	0.09	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.08	—

^a Preliminary data.

Indicator 34

Total bilateral, sector-allocable ODA of OECD/DAC donors to basic social services (basic education, primary health care, nutrition, safe water and sanitation)

	1996–1997	1998–1999	2000–2001	2002–2003	2004–2005
Percentage	7.3	10.6	13.9	16.8	15.3
Billions of United States dollars	2.4	3.1	4.0	5.7	7.6

Indicator 35

Bilateral ODA of OECD/DAC donors that is untied^a

	1990	2003	2004	2005
Percentage	67.6	91.8	91.3	92.0
Billions of United States dollars	16.3	30.1	30.8	48.9

^a Based on only about 40 per cent of total ODA commitments from OECD/DAC countries, as it excludes technical cooperation and administrative costs, as well as all ODA from Austria, Luxembourg, New Zealand and the United States of America that do not report the tying status of their ODA.

Indicator 36

ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes

	1990	2003	2004	2005
Percentage	6.2	7.1	6.9	6.3
Billions of United States dollars	6.9	10.2	11.7	11.9

Indicator 37

ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes

	1990	2003	2004	2005
Percentage	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.0
Billions of United States dollars	2.1	1.7	2.0	2.5

Market access

Indicator 38

Developed country imports (by value) from developing countries and least developed countries admitted free of duty

(Percentage)

	1996	1998	2000	2002	2005
(a) Excluding arms					
Developing countries	53	54	63	66	76
Least developed countries	68	81	75	75	82
(b) Excluding arms and oil					
Developing countries	54	54	65	68	75
Least developed countries	78	78	70	70	79

Indicator 39

Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products, textiles and clothing from developing countries

(Percentage)

	1996	1998	2000	2002	2005
(a) Agriculture					
Developing countries	10.6	10.0	9.4	9.5	8.9
Least developed countries	4.0	3.7	3.7	2.8	3.1
(b) Textiles					
Developing countries	7.3	7.0	6.6	6.0	5.3
Least developed countries	4.5	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.2
(c) Clothing					
Developing countries	11.4	11.2	10.8	10.7	8.9
Least developed countries	8.1	8.0	7.8	8.1	6.6

Indicator 40

Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product

	1990	2003	2004	2005 ^a
As a percentage of OECD countries' GDP	1.90	1.17	1.14	1.10
Billions of United States dollars	329	350	378	385

^a Preliminary data.

Indicator 41

ODA provided to help build trade capacity

(Percentage of total sector allocable ODA)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
World	4.4	3.9	4.4	3.6	3.5

Debt sustainability

Indicator 42

Heavily indebted poor countries that have reached their decision points and completion points

	2000	2007
Reached completion point	1	22
Reached decision point but not completion point	21	8
Yet to be considered for decision point	16	10
Total eligible countries	38	40

Indicator 43

Debt relief committed under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative

(Billions of United States dollars, cumulative)

	2000	2006
To countries that have reached the decision or completion point	34	59

Indicator 44

Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services

	1990	2000	2005
Developing regions	18.5	12.7	7.4
Northern Africa	39.8	17.1	10.5
Sub-Saharan Africa	11.8	9.2	7.1
Latin America and the Caribbean	20.6	21.7	14.5
Eastern Asia	10.5	5.1	1.0
Southern Asia	17.7	13.7	8.7
South-Eastern Asia	16.3	6.5	5.0
Western Asia	23.9	15.5	16.4
Oceania	14.0	6.8	4.8
Commonwealth of Independent States	3.7 ^a	8.4	8.9
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	7.8	11.8	9.0
Least developed countries	17.7	10.9	6.5

^a Data are for 1994.

Target 16
In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies for decent and productive work for youth

Indicator 45

Unemployment rate of young people aged 15–24 years**(a) Total**

	1995	2000	2006 ^a
World	12.3	13.4	13.6
Northern Africa	32.6	31.6	29.8
Sub-Saharan Africa	17.8	18.7	18.3
Latin America and the Caribbean	14.5	16.3	16.5
Eastern Asia	7.0	8.0	7.4
Southern Asia	10.8	11.6	11.0
South-Eastern Asia	9.8	12.8	17.9
Western Asia	19.2	19.0	22.7
Oceania	8.1	7.5	6.6
Commonwealth of Independent States	19.9	21.2	17.1
Developed regions	15.8	13.6	13.3

^a Preliminary data.**(b) By sex**

	1995		2000		2006 ^a	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
World	12.4	12.1	13.4	13.5	13.5	13.7
Northern Africa	29.6	40.3	28.6	39.0	26.0	38.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	18.3	17.1	19.3	17.9	18.9	17.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	12.5	18.0	13.6	20.5	13.3	20.9
Eastern Asia	8.1	5.8	9.3	6.6	8.6	6.2
Southern Asia	10.3	11.9	10.8	13.4	10.5	12.3
South-Eastern Asia	9.6	10.0	12.7	13.0	17.8	18.2
Western Asia	19.2	19.2	18.4	20.7	21.5	25.8
Oceania	8.4	7.7	7.8	7.1	6.9	6.3
Commonwealth of Independent States	19.6	20.1	20.6	22.1	15.9	18.7
Developed regions	15.5	16.2	13.7	13.5	13.9	12.6

^a Preliminary data.

Indicator 45a

Ratio of youth unemployment rate to adult unemployment rate

	1995	2000	2006 ^a
World	2.9	3.1	3.1
Northern Africa	3.3	3.2	3.4
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.6	3.2	3.2
Latin America and the Caribbean	2.7	2.8	2.9

	1995	2000	2006 ^a
Eastern Asia	2.8	2.7	2.7
Southern Asia	3.6	4.0	2.9
South-Eastern Asia	4.5	5.1	5.2
Western Asia	3.1	3.0	2.8
Oceania	3.8	3.7	3.8
Commonwealth of Independent States	2.6	2.5	2.4
Developed regions	2.4	2.4	2.4

^a Preliminary data.

Indicator 45b

Share of youth unemployment in total unemployment

(Percentage)

	1995	2000	2006 ^a
World	46.4	45.4	44.2
Northern Africa	53.5	52.0	49.4
Sub-Saharan Africa	62.8	60.0	60.7
Latin America and the Caribbean	49.5	47.4	44.6
Eastern Asia	46.6	39.0	38.1
Southern Asia	54.1	55.3	46.3
South-Eastern Asia	60.7	61.6	58.7
Western Asia	51.3	49.0	46.4
Oceania	59.2	57.9	58.2
Commonwealth of Independent States	31.5	29.9	29.2
Developed regions	30.0	28.2	27.1

^a Preliminary data.

Target 17

In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries

Indicator 46

Population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis^a

(Percentage of the population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs)

	2006
World ^b	28
Northern Africa	35
Sub-Saharan Africa	28
Latin America and the Caribbean	72
Eastern Asia	26
Southern Asia	9
South-Eastern Asia	49
Western Asia	37
Oceania	10
Commonwealth of Independent States	10

^a The coverage estimate is based on the estimated number of people needing and receiving antiretroviral therapy.

^b Includes only low- and middle-income countries.

Target 18

In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications

Indicator 47

Telephone lines and cellular subscribers

(a) Fixed telephone lines

(Per 100 population)

	1990	2005
World	9.9	19.4
Developing regions	3.1	13.7
Northern Africa	2.9	10.7
Sub-Saharan Africa	1.0	1.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	6.3	17.7
Eastern Asia	2.4	27.7
Southern Asia	0.7	5.0
South-Eastern Asia	1.3	8.2
Western Asia	9.8	18.1
Oceania	3.4	4.3
Commonwealth of Independent States	12.4	23.1
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	13.8	24.3
Developed regions	44.2	52.4
Least developed countries	0.3	0.9
Landlocked developing countries	2.3	3.0
Small island developing States	7.1	12.6

(b) Cellular subscribers

(Per 100 population)

	1990	2005
World	0.2	34.1
Developing regions	—	25.1
Northern Africa	—	29.8
Sub-Saharan Africa	—	12.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	—	43.3
Eastern Asia	—	33.2
Southern Asia	—	8.0
South-Eastern Asia	0.1	25.9
Western Asia	0.1	43.1
Oceania	—	8.1
Commonwealth of Independent States	—	55.0
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	—	62.1

	1990	2005
Developed regions	1.2	85.1
Least developed countries	—	5.0
Landlocked developing countries	—	6.8
Small island developing States	0.2	31.8

Indicator 48

Internet users

(a) Personal computers

(No data presented; see endnotes.)

(b) Internet users

(Per 100 population)

	1990	2002	2005
World	0.3	10.1	15.3
Developing regions	—	4.3	8.6
Northern Africa	—	2.6	8.3
Sub-Saharan Africa	—	1.0	2.8
Latin America and the Caribbean	—	8.2	15.2
Eastern Asia	—	7.0	11.7
Southern Asia	—	1.5	5.1
South-Eastern Asia	—	4.6	9.2
Western Asia	—	6.3	10.5
Oceania	—	3.6	5.2
Commonwealth of Independent States	—	3.1	11.9
Transition countries of South-Eastern Europe	—	7.5	18.8
Developed regions	0.3	42.9	53.04
Least developed countries	—	0.3	1.1
Landlocked developing countries	—	0.8	1.7
Small island developing States	—	8.7	13.3

Sources: United Nations Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goal Indicators and Millennium Development Goal indicators database (<http://mdgs.un.org>).

Notes

Except where indicated, regional groupings are based on United Nations geographical regions with modifications necessary to create to the extent possible homogenous groups of countries for analysis and presentation. The regional composition adopted for 2007 reporting of Millennium Development Goal indicators is available at <http://mdgs.un.org> under “Data”.

The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) comprises Belarus, Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine in Europe, and Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in Asia.

The term “Developed regions” comprises Europe (except CIS countries) Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and the United States. Developed regions always include countries with economies in transition in Europe

unless the latter are presented separately in the tables as “transition countries of South-Eastern Europe”.

The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goal Indicators agreed at its 11th meeting to remove from the Millennium Development Goal framework the following indicators: indicator 10, ratio of literate women to men, 15–24 years old; indicator 27, energy use per \$1,000 gross domestic product (purchasing power parity); indicator 29, proportion of population using solid fuels; and indicator 48 (a), personal computers in use per 100 population.

ANNEX II

Revised Millennium Development Goal monitoring framework, including new targets and indicators, as recommended by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goal Indicators

At the 2005 World Summit (see General Assembly resolution 60/1), world leaders committed themselves to achieving four targets additional to the ones included in the United Nations Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/2). The General Assembly, in its decision 61/504, took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, in which he recommended the inclusion of four new targets (A/61/1, para. 24).

The technical work for the selection of the appropriate indicators for the new targets was undertaken by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goal Indicators, coordinated by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The Group is mandated to prepare statistics and analyses on trends related to the Millennium Development Goals and to review methodologies and technical issues in relation to the indicators.

The new formulation of the monitoring framework, including the new targets and corresponding indicators as recommended by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group, is presented below.

Where relevant, indicators will be calculated by sex and by urban and rural areas.

Millennium Development Goals

*Goals and targets**
(from the Millennium Declaration)

*Indicators for monitoring progress**

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger

Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day

1. Proportion of population below \$1 (PPP) per day^a
2. Poverty gap ratio
3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption

Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people

- Growth rate of GDP per person employed
- Employment-to-population ratio
- Proportion of employed people living below \$1 (PPP) per day
- Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment

Goals and targets*
(from the Millennium Declaration)

Indicators for monitoring progress*

Target 2: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

4. Prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age
5. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education

Target 3: Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling

6. Net enrolment ratio in primary education
7. Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary**
8. Literacy rate of 15–24 year-olds, women and men

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

Target 4: Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education no later than 2015

9. Ratios of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education
10. (dropped)^b
11. Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector
12. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

Target 5: Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

13. Under-five mortality rate
14. Infant mortality rate
15. Proportion of 1 year-old children immunized against measles

Goal 5: Improve maternal health

Target 6: Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

16. Maternal mortality ratio
17. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel
- 19c. Contraceptive prevalence rate^c

Achieve, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health

- Adolescent birth rate
- Antenatal care coverage (at least one visit and at least four visits)
- Unmet need for family planning

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

Target 7: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

18. HIV prevalence among population aged 15–24 years

19a. Condom use at last high-risk sex

19b. Proportion of population aged 15–24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS

20. Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10–14 years

Achieve, by 2010, universal access to treatment for HIV/AIDS for all those who need it

Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs

Target 8: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

21. Incidence** and death rates associated with malaria

22. Proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets and proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate antimalarial drugs**

23. Incidence, ** prevalence and death rates associated with tuberculosis

24. Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 9: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources

25. Proportion of land area covered by forest

27. (dropped)^d

28. Carbon dioxide emissions, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP), and consumption of ozone-depleting substances**

29. (dropped)^e

Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits

Proportion of total water resources used

Reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss

26. Proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected**

Proportion of species threatened with extinction

Goals and targets*
(from the Millennium Declaration)

Indicators for monitoring progress*

Target 10: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

30. Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source**

31. Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility**

Target 11: By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers

32. Proportion of urban population living in slums

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

Target 12: Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system

Some of the indicators listed below are monitored separately for the least developed countries, Africa, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

Official development assistance (ODA)

Includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction—both nationally and internationally

33. Net ODA, total and to the least developed countries, as percentage of OECD/DAC donors' gross national income

Target 13: Address the special needs of the least developed countries

34. 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)

Includes: tariff and quota free access for the least developed countries' exports; enhanced programme of debt relief for heavily indebted poor countries and cancellation of official bilateral debt; and more generous ODA for countries committed to poverty reduction

35. Proportion of bilateral official development assistance of OECD/DAC donors that is united

36. ODA received in landlocked developing countries as a proportion of their gross national incomes

Target 14: Address the special needs of landlocked developing 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)

37. ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes

Market access

Target 15: Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make debt sustainable in the long term

38. Proportion of total developed country imports (by value and excluding arms) from developing countries and least developed countries, admitted free of duty

39. Average tariffs imposed by developed countries on agricultural products and textiles and clothing from developing countries

Millennium Development Goals

Goals and targets*
(from the Millennium Declaration)

Indicators for monitoring progress*

	40. Agricultural support estimate for OECD countries as a percentage of their gross domestic product
	41. Proportion of ODA provided to help build trade capacity
	<i>Debt sustainability</i>
	42. Total number of countries that have reached their HIPC decision points and number that have reached their HIPC completion points (cumulative)
	43. Debt relief committed under HIPC and MDRI Initiatives**
	44. Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services
Target 16: Replaced by new target in Goal 1	45. (Replaced by new indicators in Goal 1) ^g
Target 17: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries	46. Proportion of population with access to affordable essential drugs on a sustainable basis
Target 18: In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications	47a. Telephone lines per 100 population**
	47b. Cellular subscribers per 100 population**
	48. Internet users per 100 population**

Abbreviations: PPP, purchasing power parity; GDP, gross domestic product; OECD, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development; DAC, Development Assistance Committee; HIPC, heavily indebted poor countries; MDRI, Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative.

* The numbering of the targets and indicators will be undertaken through the inter-agency process of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Millennium Development Goal Indicators.

** The language has been modified for technical reasons, so that the data can be more clearly reflected.

^a For monitoring country poverty trends, indicators based on national poverty lines should be used, where available.

^b Previously: “Ratio of literate women to men, 15–24 years old”.

^c Moved from goal 6.

^d Previously: “Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)”.

^e Previously: “Proportion of population using solid fuels”.

^f The actual proportion of people living in slums is measured by a proxy, represented by the urban population living in households with at least one of the four characteristics: (a) lack of access to improved water supply; (b) lack of access to improved sanitation; (c) overcrowding (3 or more persons per room); and (d) dwellings made of non-durable material.

^g Previously: “Unemployment rate of young people aged 15–24 years, each sex and total”.

Part One: Political and security questions

Chapter I (pp. 37–103)

International peace and security

PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, 37: Conflict prevention, 43; Peacemaking and peacebuilding, 51; Special political missions, 55; Roster of 2007 political missions and offices, 56. THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, 58: International terrorism, 60. PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, 67: General aspects of UN peacekeeping, 67; Comprehensive review of peacekeeping, 75; Operations in 2007, 75; Roster of 2007 operations, 76; Financial and administrative aspects of peacekeeping operations, 79.

In 2007, the United Nations continued to promote international peace and security and strengthened its capacity to maintain its peace operations worldwide. The Security Council debated its role in reforming the security sector in countries emerging from conflict, as well as the connections between energy, security and climate, and natural resources and conflict. The Peacebuilding Commission continued to focus its attention on Burundi and Sierra Leone through its country-specific configurations, and adopted peacebuilding frameworks to guide its engagement in each of those countries. The Commission's Organizational Committee placed a third country—Guinea-Bissau—on the Commission's agenda and established a country-specific configuration on that country.

Acts of international terrorism were committed throughout the year, including multiple deadly attacks in Algeria, Iraq and Pakistan. An 11 December bomb attack on UN buildings in Algiers, Algeria, resulted in the deaths of 17 UN staff, the second highest number of casualties suffered by the Organization in a terrorist attack since the bombing of the UN headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq, in 2003. In Rawalpindi, Pakistan, former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and 23 others were killed in a bombing and shooting attack following a political rally on 27 December. In a series of statements, the Security Council condemned those and other terrorist attacks, underlined the need to bring the perpetrators to justice, and urged States to fulfil their obligation to combat terrorism. The General Assembly called on Member States to cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts and to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. The Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) continued to implement the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted by the Assembly in 2006, and was assisting Member States in implementing provisions of the Strategy. On 10 December, the Council extended the mandate of the CTC Executive Directorate until 31 March 2008.

Faced with an unprecedented demand for peacekeeping, the United Nations took action to strengthen its capacity to manage and sustain its peacekeeping operations. In June, the Assembly adopted measures to restructure the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), and created the Department of Field Support, which would deliver support to UN field operations and provide services to DPKO and the Department of Political Affairs. The new Department would report to, and take direction from, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on all matters already under the purview of DPKO. The Organization also continued to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse by UN peacekeepers. In December, the Assembly adopted the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel.

The United Nations maintained 13 political and peacebuilding missions and offices and 17 peacekeeping missions in 2007. At year's end, 106,016 uniformed and civilian personnel were serving in the field, compared to 99,355 in 2006.

Regarding the financial position of UN peacekeeping operations, expenditures increased by 12.3 per cent in 2007 to \$5,148.1 million, compared to \$4,582.8 million in 2006; the increase was due mainly to the expansion of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, the start-up of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste, and the full-year impact of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan. Unpaid assessed contributions remained virtually unchanged from the previous year at \$1.3 billion.

Part One: Political and security questions

Chapter II (pp. 104–306)

Africa

PROMOTION OF PEACE IN AFRICA, 106. CENTRAL AFRICA AND GREAT LAKES REGION, 112: Democratic Republic of the Congo, 115; Burundi, 137; Central African Republic, 146; Chad and Central African Republic, 149; Uganda, 159; Rwanda, 162. WEST AFRICA, 163: Regional issues, 165; Côte d'Ivoire, 169; Liberia, 192; Sierra Leone, 208; Guinea-Bissau, 220; Cameroon-Nigeria, 231; Guinea, 233; Mali, 233. HORN OF AFRICA, 234: Sudan, 235; Somalia, 267; Eritrea-Ethiopia, 284. NORTH AFRICA, 295: Western Sahara, 295. OTHER ISSUES, 303: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, 303; Mauritius–United Kingdom/France, 303; Cooperation between the AU and the UN system, 303.

During 2007, Africa made measured progress towards resolving the conflicts besetting the continent. The United Nations maintained its strong commitment to promoting peace, stability and development through seven UN political missions and offices and eight peacekeeping missions, supported by some 84,300 military personnel. The Organization faced tremendous challenges in helping the countries in conflict situations and those in transition to post-conflict peacebuilding in Central Africa and the Great Lakes region, West Africa and the Horn of Africa to return to peace, stability and prosperity. Many countries faced the daunting task of bringing rebel groups into the peace process, concluding the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes for ex-combatants, promoting national reconciliation and creating conditions for economic and social rehabilitation and development. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the United Nations Office for West Africa continued to bring a regional perspective to issues facing the continent, promote conflict prevention and raise awareness about subregional problems. The United Nations worked closely with the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and other regional organizations and international actors to assist Governments in improving security, ensuring humanitarian access, energizing peace processes and promoting economic and social development. A Security Council mission in June visited Abidjan, Accra, Addis Ababa, Khartoum and Kinshasa to promote political reconciliation. The United Nations continued to monitor Security Council-sanctioned arms embargos in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the Darfur region of western Sudan and Somalia.

In Central Africa, the 11 countries of the Great Lakes region took steps to implement the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the region, which they signed in 2006. The Kivu provinces in the DRC continued to be plagued by the activity of illegal armed groups, which clashed frequently with the country's armed forces. Nearly all of the 17,000 peacekeepers of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) moved to the Kivus in an effort to avert further bloodshed. However, a difficult year ended with a positive development, as the Government announced that the long-awaited Conference on Peace, Security and Development in the Kivus would be held in January 2008. In other progress, the DRC concluded agreements with both Uganda and Rwanda on ending the activities of armed groups in the Great Lakes region. On 1 January, the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi commenced its operations, which brought together the activities of the UN system for peace consolidation, and thereby transformed UN efforts in the country from a peacekeeping to a peacebuilding mission. As a beneficiary of the new UN Peacebuilding Fund, Burundi received a \$35 million allocation. Although the Government and the last major rebel hold-out group

reached an agreement in June to implement the 2006 Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement, scant progress was achieved in implementing that document. In Uganda, progress was made towards resolving the 20-year conflict in the north pitting Government forces against the Lord's Resistance Army. Mediation by the Government of Southern Sudan and the United Nations resulted in the signing of various thematic accords during negotiations held in Juba, Southern Sudan. The situation in the Central African Republic was marked by preparations for a political dialogue to address the persistent political crisis and continuing rebel activities, especially in the north-west and the north-east. The United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) assisted in the establishment of the national dialogue. The conclusion of two agreements, in February and April, between the Government and rebel forces improved the security situation. The spillover of the conflict in the Darfur region sent hundreds of thousands of Sudanese into tense, overcrowded refugee camps in eastern Chad and north-eastern Central African Republic. In September, the Security Council authorized the establishment of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), a multidimensional presence comprising troops provided by the European Union (EU), as well as UN military liaison officers, police monitors and civilian personnel. The presence was intended to help create security conditions conducive to the voluntary and safe return of refugees and displaced persons.

In West Africa, while gains were achieved in moving the peace process forward in Côte d'Ivoire and in consolidating peace and stability in Liberia and Sierra Leone, the region still faced significant challenges, such as illicit cross-border issues, institutional weaknesses, economic recovery, security sector reform, demilitarization, demobilization and rehabilitation of ex-combatants, and the return of refugees and internally displaced persons. In that regard, the Secretary-General released a March report on cross-border issues in West Africa and identified priority areas for action. The United Nations Office for West Africa continued to promote conflict prevention, raise awareness on subregional problems and work in close collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union to assist Governments in improving security, ensuring humanitarian access and energizing the peace process. A performance assessment of the Office led to a revision of its functions and activities and an extension of the mandate for a further three-year period. In Côte d'Ivoire, President Gbagbo and the Head of the Forces nouvelles, Guillaume Soro, signed the Ouagadougou Agreement and supplementary agreements, which provided a road map for a new transition period and timelines for the completion of key operations in the peace process, including the holding of presidential elections by June 2008. A new transitional Government was formed, mechanisms were established for effective follow-up to the Agreement and the overall political and security environment improved, providing the impetus to move the peace process forward. Optimism prevailed that national elections would be held in 2008 as scheduled. In Liberia, President Johnson-Sirleaf continued to address the issues of corruption and governance reform and enacted measures to enhance transparency and accountability in the Government. UN sanctions on diamonds were lifted and with the assistance of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) and other regional and international actors, the country made further progress in restoring its administrative authority and in controlling areas of economic activity, including the management of its natural resources. Liberia was admitted into the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme; the Office of Precious Minerals and the Liberian Diamond Board were established by the Government; and, in September, the exportation of diamonds was resumed. In the light of the progress achieved, the United Nations set benchmarks for the drawdown of UNMIL. Sierra Leone continued efforts to consolidate the peace and stability achieved in previous years. The presidential and parliamentary elections, held in August with the support of the

United Nations Integrated Office in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Development Programme, were peaceful, transparent and credible. Ernest Bai Koroma of the All People's Congress was declared President after a run-off election. Sierra Leone intensified its engagement with the Peacebuilding Commission, leading to the adoption of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework, a medium-term document which described actions that the Government and the Commission had committed to undertake to address challenges and threats with a view to sustaining and consolidating peace. A UN technical assessment mission visited the country and made recommendations on the Office's exit strategy and the future UN presence in Sierra Leone. Despite its financial difficulties, the Special Court for Sierra Leone delivered trial judgements in two of the four ongoing cases and commenced the trial of the former President of Liberia, Charles Taylor. In Guinea-Bissau, representatives of the three main political parties signed political and government stability agreements to create a solid parliamentary base and a Government of national consensus. The United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau assisted the country in its efforts to further consolidate peace and promote national reconciliation, and collaborated with the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime and ECOWAS to address drug trafficking in the country. In December, the Peacebuilding Commission decided to place Guinea-Bissau on its agenda. Cameroon and Nigeria, with the support of the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission, agreed on the delineation of the maritime boundary, thereby implementing and completing all four sections of the 2002 International Court of Justice ruling on the land and maritime boundaries between the two countries. National strikes due to the worsening economic and social conditions in Guinea, which escalated into violence and caused the death of over 100 persons, prompted the President to declare the country in a state of siege for 10 days. The Secretary-General expressed concern over the situation and urged the Government to investigate and prosecute those responsible for the killings.

The Horn of Africa continued to be affected by complex, interlocking conflicts. In the Sudan, slow progress was registered in implementing the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement designed to end the conflict between the north and the south. Some 10,000 peacekeepers of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) continued to monitor the implementation of the Agreement. To address the conflict in the Darfur region, the United Nations and the AU launched a joint peacekeeping mission, the African Union–United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), which was authorized by the Security Council on 31 July. Meanwhile, the AU and UN Special Envoys for Darfur carried out intense diplomatic activity in the region, including talks launched in August in the United Republic of Tanzania to involve the some 20 Darfur movements that had not signed the 2006 Darfur Peace Agreement. At the same time, as the security situation worsened and attacks on aid workers increased, the largest humanitarian relief effort in the world struggled to maintain an acceptable level of care for the hundreds of thousands of victims of the conflict. In Somalia, remnants of the militia of the Union of Islamic Courts, which were dislodged in December 2006 and January 2007 by Ethiopian troops and Transitional Federal Government forces, mounted an insurgency against the Ethiopia-Government coalition in Mogadishu, resulting in heavy civilian losses. In March, the AU began deploying the peacekeeping mission it had established in January to support the Transitional Federal Government in its efforts to stabilize the country. In July and August, a Government-organized National Reconciliation Congress gathered 2,600 delegates in Mogadishu. However, the continuing Courts insurgency, coupled with inter-clan violence, forced more than half of Mogadishu residents out of the city by year's end. The border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea remained at an impasse during 2007. Eritrea restated its acceptance of the 2002 decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission, while Ethiopia maintained that such a decision should be implemented through further negotiations between the parties. The Boundary

Commission stated that its decision would come into effect on 30 November, thus fulfilling its mandate. Both countries deployed troops in the border area. However, no progress was made in demarcating the border. The United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) continued to monitor the ceasefire reached in 2000, but Eritrea increased restrictions on its freedom of movement. Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía El-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente Polisario) renewed dialogue over the disputed Territory of Western Sahara, holding in June and August the first face-to-face talks since 2000. However, Morocco continued to refuse to accept a referendum that would include the option of independence, while Frente Polisario insisted that the only way forward was to implement the 2003 peace plan proposed by the UN Special Envoy, which provided for independence as an option. The United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) continued to monitor the ceasefire and support humanitarian activities.

Part One: Political and security questions

Chapter III (pp. 307–322)

Americas

CENTRAL AMERICA, 307: Guatemala, 308. HAITI, 308: Political and security situation, 308; Programme of support for Haiti, 316; MINUSTAH, 316. OTHER QUESTIONS, 320: Cuba–United States, 320; Gulf of Fonseca zone of peace, 322; Cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, 322; Observer status, 322.

During 2007, the United Nations continued to advance the cause of lasting peace, human rights, sustainable development and the rule of law in the Americas. To that end, the International Commission against Impunity was established in Guatemala in the course of the year, pursuant to a 2006 agreement between the Government and the United Nations.

In Haiti, despite continuing challenges relating to the political and security situation, progress was made with the Parliament's adoption in January of the State budget and necessary legislation, and with municipal and local elections held in April with the support of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). In other action to stabilize the country, the Government launched campaigns against corruption and drug trafficking, established a committee on judicial reform and adopted in December three key laws designed to strengthen the judiciary. Despite those gains, the relationship between the Government and Parliament did not improve and, as at year's end, the political situation remained fragile owing mainly to continuing political divisions, weak State institutions and the lack of improvement in the difficult living conditions of the people. Further tensions resulted from a deterioration in security conditions, including a rise in the number of kidnappings. Also of major concern in that regard were the activities of gangs and anti-Government demonstrations in protest of the rising cost of living, which prompted a series of joint security operations by the Haitian National Police (HNP) and MINUSTAH to restore State authority. While progress was maintained towards strengthening HNP, with MINUSTAH support, the national police capacity remained below the level required to ensure law and order in the country. Against that background, MINUSTAH conducted, in the course of the year, a detailed threat assessment and identified three security risks facing Haiti, among them, the likelihood of civil unrest owing mostly to a deep socio-economic divide, a considerable potential for renewed armed violence within the country and illicit traffic in drugs, arms and contraband, which would continue to corrupt State institutions. In line with the recommendations made by the Secretary-General following his August visit to Haiti, the Mission's military component was reconfigured to reflect the changing circumstances and priorities, which included enhancement of its capabilities in border control, engineering and mobility, while decreasing its infantry capabilities.

Reflecting on other developments in the region, the General Assembly again called on States to refrain from promulgating laws and measures such as the ongoing embargo against Cuba by the United States.

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Chapter IV (pp. 323–387)

Asia and the Pacific

AFGHANISTAN, 324: Situation in Afghanistan, 324; Sanctions, 340. IRAQ, 341: Situation in Iraq, 341; UN Assistance Mission for Iraq, 342; Multinational force, 349; International Advisory and Monitoring Board, 353; UN Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission and IAEA activities, 354; Oil-for-food programme, 359. IRAQ-KUWAIT, 361: POWS, Kuwaiti property and missing persons, 361; UN Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission, 361; UN Compensation Commission and Fund, 362. TIMOR-LESTE, 363: United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste, 363; Financing of UN operations, 369. IRAN, 374. DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, 379. OTHER MATTERS, 381: Cambodia, 381; India–Pakistan, 382; Myanmar, 382; Nepal, 384; Tajikistan, 387; United Arab Emirates–Iran, 387; Regional meetings, 387.

In 2007, the United Nations continued to face significant political and security challenges in Asia and the Pacific, especially in Afghanistan and Iraq, in its efforts to restore peace and stability and promote economic and social development in the region.

In Afghanistan, the United Nations found itself dealing with an increase in insurgent activities, especially in the south, as well as poverty, weak governance and bumper opium production. However, across large parts of Afghanistan, robust performances in construction and services underpinned strong economic growth. The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) continued to coordinate international humanitarian and development activities, assist the Government in building institutions and foster political dialogue. The Mission extended its presence by opening two new provincial offices. In March, the Security Council extended UNAMA'S mandate by another year. The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), a multinational force established by the Security Council in 2001, continued to assist the Government in maintaining security. In September, the Council extended ISAF'S authorization for a 12-month period. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization continued its role as lead command for ISAF. In November, the General Assembly called upon the Government to continue to address the threat posed by extremist groups and criminal violence, underlined the need to finalize the Afghanistan National Development Strategy and urged donors to increase the proportion of assistance channelled directly to Afghanistan's core budget.

In Iraq, the unstable political and security situation caused widespread concern in the international community. Ethnic and sectarian violence continued to escalate, though the number of civilian and military deaths dropped during the last few months of the year. On 4 February, a suicide bomber killed more than 130 people in a market in Baghdad, the worst single bombing since 2003. Suicide bombings in northern Iraq on 14 August left more than 400 dead. The United Nations worked to foster regional engagement through initiatives including the International Compact with Iraq and continued to promote national reconciliation and consensus-building. The United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) advised the Government on developing civil and social services, fostered human rights protection and legal reforms, and contributed to the coordination of development and reconstruction efforts. In August, by resolution 1770(2007), the Security Council extended the UNAMI mandate for another year.

In June, the Security Council, noting testimonials that all of Iraq's known weapons of mass destruction had been rendered harmless and that the Iraqi Government had declared its support for international non-proliferation regimes, terminated by resolution 1762(2007) the mandates of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission and the International

Atomic Energy Agency in Iraq. The Council in December, by resolution 1790(2007), extended one more time the mandate of the Multinational Force. The mandate would be reviewed at the request of the Iraqi Government or no later than 15 June 2008; it would be terminated earlier if the Government requested the Council to do so.

The United Nations continued to follow up on issues relating to Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait, including the repatriation of the remains of Kuwaiti and third-country nationals, the return of Kuwaiti property, including the national archives, and compensation for losses and damage.

The United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste continued to assist the country in facilitating dialogue and reconciliation; the restoration and maintenance of public security; the conduct of the 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections; and further training, institutional development and strengthening of the national police. In February, the Security Council extended the Mission's mandate by another year. Following generally peaceful elections, former Prime Minister José Ramos-Horta was sworn in as the new President. Former President Xanana Gusmão was sworn in as Prime Minister and a new Government was formed. Visiting the country in November, a Security Council mission sought to build on the success of the elections and to support efforts to bolster peace and democracy. The mission reported that despite the tremendous gains achieved, Timor-Leste would continue to need United Nations assistance to address its political, security and economic challenges.

Determined to constrain Iran's development of sensitive technologies in support of its nuclear and missile programmes, the Security Council, in March, widened the scope of its 2006 sanctions against Iran by banning the country's arms exports, and designated additional persons and entities as subject to the assets freeze and travel restrictions.

The six-party talks on the nuclear programme of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), involving the DPRK, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States, continued in 2007. On 4 October, the leaders of the DPRK and the Republic of Korea signed the Declaration on the Advancement of North-South Korean Relations, Peace and Prosperity. A Committee established by the Security Council continued to monitor the implementation of the sanctions regime imposed on the DPRK in 2006.

In Cambodia, the Extraordinary Chambers established following an agreement between the Government and the United Nations to prosecute senior leaders of crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea (1975–1979) brought the first charges against those leaders.

In Myanmar, peaceful demonstrations by students and monks in August and September were followed by reports of arrests and excessive use of force by the authorities. In September, the Secretary-General dispatched to the country his Special Adviser, and subsequently the Security Council called on the Government to release all political prisoners and detainees and to create the conditions for dialogue.

In January, the Security Council established the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) as a special political mission with a mandate to monitor the management of arms and armed personnel of the Maoist army and the Nepal Army, assist in monitoring ceasefire arrangements, provide technical support for the conduct of the election of a Constituent Assembly and provide a small team of electoral monitors.

Part One: Political and security questions

Chapter V (pp. 388–433)

Europe and the Mediterranean

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, 389: Implementation of Peace Agreement, 389; European Union missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 396. SERBIA, 397: Situation in Kosovo, 398. GEORGIA, 409: UN Observer Mission in Georgia, 409. ARMENIA AND AZERBAIJAN, 421. REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, 423. ORGANIZATION FOR DEMOCRACY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, 423. CYPRUS, 424: Good offices mission, 425; UNFICYP, 426. OTHER ISSUES, 432: Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, 432; Cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, 433.

The restoration of peace and stability in the post-conflict countries in the European and Mediterranean region advanced in 2007, as efforts to re-establish their institutions and social and economic infrastructure continued. However, a number of issues remained unresolved.

Led by the European Union (EU), the international community continued to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina to move towards full integration into Europe through the EU Stabilization and Association Process. Bosnia and Herzegovina signed a security agreement with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), but the country was not successful in securing a Stabilization and Association Agreement with the EU.

In Kosovo (Serbia), the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) continued to assist in the building of a modern, multi-ethnic society. In March, the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the future status of Kosovo presented the Secretary-General with his proposal on Kosovo's future status. Having taken into account the negotiations with the parties, the Special Envoy came to the conclusion that the only viable option for Kosovo was independence, to be supervised for an initial period by the international community. The Secretary-General supported those recommendations. In April, the Security Council undertook its first mission to Kosovo and Belgrade since 2002. In August, the "Troika", composed of representatives of the EU, the Russian Federation and the United States, was established to lead a period of further negotiations on the future status of Kosovo. It presented its report in December. In November, elections were held for the Assembly of Kosovo, including 30 municipal assemblies.

Renewed efforts were made to end the stalemate in the Georgian Abkhaz peace process. Senior officials of the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General (France, Germany, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States) continued to encourage dialogue on the basis of the 2001 Basic Principles for the Distribution of Competencies between Tbilisi (the Georgian Government) and Sukhumi (the Abkhaz leadership). A difficult and complex situation prevailed on the ground, however, with tensions increasing early in the year in the Gali and Zugdidi sector, as well as in the upper Kodori Valley. Abkhaz authorities claimed that Georgian forces had violated the 1994 Agreement on a Ceasefire and Separation of Forces (Moscow Agreement), and Georgia demanded the withdrawal of Russian peacekeeping forces from the conflict zone. Compliance with the Moscow Agreement and with Security Council resolutions 858(1993) and 937(1994) was monitored by the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) and by a collective peacekeeping force of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

No progress was made towards settling the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan over the occupied Nagorno-Karabakh region in Azerbaijan. In July, Nagorno-Karabakh held presidential

elections, the results of which were rejected by Azerbaijan, several neighbouring States, the EU, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and its status remained uncertain at year's end.

Similarly, no progress was made towards settling the conflict with regard to the Transnistrian region of Moldova. In September, Moldova informed the Secretary-General that the situation in the country's security zone had deteriorated.

The Organization for Democracy and Economic Development (GUAM)-area countries (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova) transmitted to the Secretary-General a number of communications by GUAM member States regarding the contentious local and parliamentary elections in Abkhazia, Georgia, which took place in February and March; the contested presidential elections held in July in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan; and documents adopted at the GUAM Summit in Azerbaijan.

In the Mediterranean, the situation in Cyprus remained unresolved and efforts were focused on assisting the two sides in implementing the 8 July 2006 Agreement. The Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders met in September and each side presented sets of proposals on confidence-building measures to the Secretary-General. However, mutual recriminations persisted and serious tensions continued to exist between the two Cypriot communities. The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus continued to cooperate with its UN partners and the two communities to facilitate projects of benefit to Greek and Turkish Cypriots in the buffer zone and to advance towards the goal of restoring normal conditions and humanitarian functions in Cyprus.

Part One: Political and security questions

Chapter VI (pp. 434–522)

Middle East

PEACE PROCESS, 435: Occupied Palestinian Territory, 435. ISSUES RELATED TO PALESTINE, 461: General aspects, 461; Assistance to Palestinians, 469; UNRWA, 471. PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS, 478: Lebanon, 479; Syrian Arab Republic, 517.

In 2007, the most striking developments in the Middle East occurred in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Lebanon. Particularly significant were the establishment of the short-lived Palestinian National Unity Government and the takeover of the Gaza Strip by Hamas, a Palestinian Islamic socio-political organization and paramilitary force, in mid-June, following several months of armed clashes between Hamas and Fatah, a Palestinian political party and the largest faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). Factional violence reached a climax in the period from 11 to 17 June, claiming the lives of 188 Palestinians. From 16 June, Israel closed the borders of Gaza, with an exception made for imports of essential humanitarian supplies. On 17 June, the President of the Palestinian Authority (PA), Mahmoud Abbas, dissolved the National Unity Government. The latter half of the year saw political divisions and further armed clashes between Hamas and Fatah. Hamas consolidated its control in the Gaza Strip, establishing a security and administrative apparatus. In September, President Abbas issued a presidential decision barring political groups from participating in future elections unless they recognized all international agreements of the PLO. The Israeli security cabinet declared Gaza a hostile entity and approved the disruption of utility and fuel supplies.

In the latter half of the year, Israel, the international community and the PA began a dialogue that led to the resumption of peace talks and a conference, convened by the United States and attended by the Secretary-General, in Annapolis, Maryland, United States, on 27 November. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Abbas reached a Joint Understanding, pledging to re-launch the peace process through bilateral negotiation and supporting a two-State solution.

The Middle East Quartet (European Union, Russian Federation, United Nations, United States) continued to promote the road map initiative endorsed by the Security Council in 2003. The road map aimed to achieve progress through parallel and reciprocal steps by Israel and the PA in the political, security, economic, humanitarian and institution-building areas, under an international monitoring system. In June, Tony Blair, former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, was appointed as Quartet Representative.

In Lebanon, political divisions deepened in 2007, rendering more difficult the fulfilment of various UN mandates in support of Lebanese sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence. The country remained in the grip of an intense political crisis, which impeded the normal functioning of the legitimate constitutional institutions. At the centre of the crisis was the election of a new President, a position that remained vacant following the expiration of President Emile Lahoud's extended term in office on 23 November. The prolonged political deadlock generated violent confrontations between the opposing parties, while targeted assassinations escalated tensions throughout the country. On 13 June, a car bomb killed Walid Eido, a former judge and Member of Parliament. On 19 September, Antoine Ghanem, also a Member of Parliament, was assassinated, and, on 12 December, an explosion killed Army General François el-Hajj. Despite the political crisis and instability, the Government made progress towards

extending its authority over all of the Lebanese territory; disarming and disbanding militias; and asserting its sovereignty and territorial integrity, most notably by defeating in battle Fatah al-Islam, after 15 weeks of fighting in a refugee camp near the city of Tripoli. The Secretary-General travelled to Lebanon in March and November, and visited the Syrian Arab Republic in April.

The United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC) continued to investigate the 14 February 2005 assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and 22 others. The Security Council invited UNIIC to extend its technical assistance to the Lebanese authorities in the investigations of the assassinations of Mr. Eido, Mr. Ghanem and Mr. el-Hajj.

On 6 February, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, an international criminal tribunal for the prosecution of criminal acts relating to the assassination of Mr. Hariri, was established by an agreement between the United Nations and Lebanon. The Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, endorsed the agreement on 30 May. The provisions of the agreement and the Tribunal's Statute entered into force on 10 June. Subsequently, the Secretary-General appointed Daniel Bellemare (Canada) as the Tribunal's Prosecutor and established a selection panel for the appointment of judges. On 21 December, an agreement was signed between the United Nations and the Netherlands concerning the Tribunal's headquarters, which was to be located at The Hague.

The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) continued to cooperate closely with the Lebanese Armed Forces with a view to consolidating the new strategic military and security environment in southern Lebanon. UNIFIL created a stable operational area as a basis for international efforts to revitalize the political process leading to a permanent ceasefire. On 24 June, a bomb attack killed six UNIFIL peacekeepers serving with the Spanish contingent. The UNIFIL mandate was extended for a one-year period until 31 August 2008.

In May, the Secretary-General, in an agreement with the Lebanese Government, established the United Nations Independent Border Assessment Team. The Team visited Lebanon from 27 May to 15 June to assess the monitoring of the Lebanese-Syrian border and reported back to the Security Council on its findings and recommendations.

The mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights was extended twice. The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization continued to assist UNIFIL and UNDOF in their tasks.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East continued to provide education, health and social services to over 4 million Palestinian refugees living in and outside camps in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as in Jordan.

During the year, the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs in the Occupied Territories reported to the General Assembly on the situation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and in the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. The Committee on the Exercise on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People continued to mobilize international support for the Palestinians.

Part One: Political and security questions

Chapter VII (pp. 523–603)

Disarmament

UN ROLE IN DISARMAMENT, 524: UN machinery, 524. NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, 530: Conference on Disarmament, 531; Disarmament Commission, 534; start and other bilateral agreements and unilateral measures, 534; Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, 542; Prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons, 544; Advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, 545. NON-PROLIFERATION ISSUES, 547: Non-Proliferation Treaty, 547; Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, 548; Multilateralism in disarmament and non-proliferation, 553; International Atomic Energy Agency, 555; Radioactive waste, 558; Nuclear-weapon-free zones, 560. BACTERIOLOGICAL (BIOLOGICAL) AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS, 566: Bacteriological (biological) weapons, 566; Chemical weapons, 567. CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS, 570: Towards an arms trade treaty, 570; Small arms, 570; Convention on excessively injurious conventional weapons and Protocols, 575; Practical disarmament, 578; Transparency, 578; Anti-personnel mines, 581. OTHER DISARMAMENT ISSUES, 583: Prevention of an arms race in outer space, 583; Disarmament and development, 586; Human rights, human security and disarmament, 587; Observance of environmental norms, 587. STUDIES, INFORMATION AND TRAINING, 589: Disarmament studies programme, 589. REGIONAL DISARMAMENT, 590: Africa, 593; Asia and the Pacific, 597; Europe, 599; Latin America, 600; Middle East, 603.

The United Nations took a major step in 2007 towards reforming and advancing the international disarmament and non-proliferation agenda through the establishment of an Office for Disarmament Affairs that would interact more effectively with the Secretary-General in addressing global disarmament issues. Headed by a High Representative, the new Office would replace the Department for Disarmament Affairs and assume its functions and mandate in terms of providing organizational support for norm-setting in the field of disarmament.

In his February proposals for the reform, the Secretary-General highlighted the disarmament challenges facing Member States, including the lack of meaningful outcomes of a number of disarmament meetings and conferences in recent years, the lack of progress in the work of the Organization's sole multilateral disarmament negotiating body—the Conference on Disarmament—and the delayed entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. Those setbacks underscored the need for determined leadership at the highest level to revitalize the disarmament agenda through a more focused effort and a greater role and involvement of the Secretary-General.

In a number of other instances during the year, the lack of consensus continued to block the progress of disarmament-related initiatives, most notably regarding the work of the open-ended working group established to consider the objectives and agenda for a fourth special session of the Assembly devoted to disarmament, and in the work of the Disarmament Commission, the Organization's deliberative disarmament body. Against that background, the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, which advised the Secretary-General on disarmament questions, advocated a pragmatic approach in resolving current disarmament and non-proliferation difficulties and greater cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, while the General Assembly stressed the need for the Conference on Disarmament to break the deadlock among delegates and commence substantive work.

In July, the Secretary-General reported relative progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, noting that the total number of nuclear weapons currently in existence was estimated at 27,000, the lowest level in four decades. Nevertheless, challenges remained, relating in particular to the issues of transparency, irreversibility, the verification of existing nuclear weapons and their reductions, persisting proliferation threats and the possible acquisition of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) by non-State actors. To address those threats, the Secretary-General launched early in the year a new online *Counter Terrorism Handbook*, designed to strengthen Member States' capacity to combat terrorism. Addressing the same threats, the Security Council held an open debate to explore cooperation between the Council and international organizations in implementing Council resolutions for preventing the proliferation of WMDs. The General Assembly also adopted resolutions addressing measures towards the same end. Those efforts were reinforced by the July entry into force of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism. The Secretary-General established a Panel of Governmental Experts to assist him in exploring solutions to the equally disturbing risk of the proliferation of missiles and related technology, and in August, the States parties to the Biological Weapons Convention adopted a harmonized domestic mechanism to serve as a basic guide facilitating the national implementation of the Convention.

Member States also continued during the year to address conventional weapons issues and challenges, with the General Assembly according urgent consideration to related arms control efforts at the regional and subregional levels. The Security Council, concerned that the accumulation of small arms and light weapons intensified armed conflicts, undermined peace agreements and compromised the Council's effectiveness in discharging its duties, requested the Secretary-General to submit biennial reports, effective 2008, outlining recommendations for dealing with the problem, within the framework of the Programme of Action adopted at the 2001 UN Conference on small arms. The Assembly adopted three resolutions urging action against the illicit trade or transfer of those arms and on assistance to States in curbing the problem.

In ongoing efforts to secure an international conventional arms control regime for the effective management of small arms and light weapons, the Secretary-General submitted, in August, the views of 100 Member States on the feasibility, scope and draft parameters for a comprehensive and legally binding arms trade treaty establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms. Also in the course of the year, the Secretary-General transmitted to the General Assembly for consideration the report and recommendations of the Group of Governmental Experts established in 2006 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons. Efforts continued to further promote the implementation of the International Instrument to enable States to identify and trace illicit small arms and light weapons.

Disturbed by the capacity for excessive injury of a number of other categories of conventional arms and ammunition, the States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects asked a Group of Governmental Experts to draft a proposal addressing the humanitarian impact of cluster munitions, which was a particularly lethal variant of those weapons. In a related development, a group of Member States convened a global conference in Oslo, Norway, and adopted the Oslo Declaration recognizing the grave consequences of the use of cluster munitions and committed themselves to conclude, by 2008, a legally binding instrument prohibiting their use, production, transfer and stockpiling. Member States also continued to address disarmament challenges from a human rights and human security perspective, within the framework of the Geneva-based United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.

At the bilateral level, the United States and the Russian Federation held talks during the year to consider the shape and nature of a future strategic arms control arrangement to replace the 1991 Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms agreement, which had committed both sides to limit the number of nuclear warheads they could each deploy and which was scheduled to expire in 2009. Both sides also continued to implement their 2002 Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (Moscow Treaty), under which they had agreed to whittle down the level of their deployed strategic nuclear warheads by December 2012.

Landmark disarmament events commemorated during the year included the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention in 1997; the tenth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Mine-Ban Convention in 1997; and the fortieth anniversary of the Outer Space Treaty, adopted in 1967.

Part One: Political and security questions

Chapter VIII (pp. 604–657)

Other political and security questions

GENERAL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, 604: Support for democracies, 604. REGIONAL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY, 606: South Atlantic, 606; Indian Ocean, 607. DECOLONIZATION, 608: Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, 608; Puerto Rico, 620; Territories under review, 620. PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE, 634: Implementation of UNISPACE III recommendations, 638; Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, 638; Legal Subcommittee, 642. EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION, 644. INFORMATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, 646. INFORMATION, 647: UN public information, 647.

In 2007, the United Nations continued to consider political and security questions relating to its efforts to support democratization worldwide, the promotion of decolonization, the peaceful uses of outer space and the Organization's public information activities.

Highlighting the need to continue promoting democratization and the importance of action-oriented follow-up to the Sixth (2006) International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, the General Assembly decided to observe, on 15 September of each year, the International Day of Democracy. The Advisory Board, established in 2006 to assist the Chairman of the New or Restored Democracies Movement to implement Conference decisions, held its first and second sessions in April and September, respectively.

The zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic held its sixth ministerial meeting in June; the meeting adopted the Luanda Final Declaration and Plan of Action, which included activities related to economic cooperation and poverty eradication. The Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean met in July to consider approaches for achieving the goals of the 1971 Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. In a December resolution on the Zone, the Assembly reiterated its conviction that the participation of all permanent Security Council members and the major maritime users of the Indian Ocean in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee would facilitate the development of a mutually beneficial dialogue to advance peace, security and stability in that region.

The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples continued to review progress in implementing the 1960 Declaration, particularly the exercise of self-determination by the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs). During the year, the Special Committee organized a Caribbean regional seminar in Saint George's, Granada, as part of its efforts to implement the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (2001–2010). In Gibraltar, a new constitution entered into force on 2 January, following its approval by the people of that Territory in a 2006 referendum. While the United Kingdom and Gibraltar agreed that the new constitution established a modern and mature relationship between them, Spain said that it amounted to no more than a reform of the colonial administration. In the New Zealand-administered Territory of Tokelau, an October referendum to determine the Territory's future status—the second held in as many years—again failed to produce the two-thirds majority of votes required for a change of status.

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space considered the implementation of the recommendations of the Third (1999) United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Its two subcommittees, one of which dealt with scientific and technical matters

and the other with legal issues, continued their work. In December, the Assembly endorsed the 2008–2009 work plan for the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response. The International Heliophysical Year was celebrated in 2007, marking the fiftieth anniversary of the International Geophysical Year (1957).

The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation held its fifty-fourth session.

In a December resolution on developments in information and telecommunications in the context of international security, the Assembly called on Member States to further promote the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible measures to limit emerging threats.

The Committee on Information continued to review the management and operation of the UN Department of Public Information (DPI). At its April/May session, the Committee considered reports by the Secretary-General on several DPI activities, including those of the United Nations information centres, which had emerged as crucial players in promoting UN priority issues at the national level. Regarding the development of UN websites, the Secretary-General stated that, as at August, all DPI field offices had functional websites delivering UN information in 33 languages.

Part Two: Human rights
Chapter I (pp. 661–704)
Promotion of human rights

UN MACHINERY, 661: Human Rights Council, 661; Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 666. HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS, 672: General aspects, 672; Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Optional Protocols, 677; Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 677; Convention against racial discrimination, 678; Convention against torture, 679; Convention on elimination of discrimination against women and Optional Protocol, 680; Convention on the Rights of the Child, 680; Convention on migrant workers, 689; Convention on genocide, 689; Convention on rights of persons with disabilities, 690; International Convention for protection from enforced disappearance, 690; Declaration on rights of indigenous peoples, 690. OTHER ACTIVITIES, 696: Follow-up to 1993 World Conference, 696; Human rights education, 696; Strengthening action to promote human rights, 700.

In 2007, the Human Rights Council took major steps to consolidate its status as the Organization's primary forum for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, a role it inherited from the former Commission on Human Rights, which was abolished in 2006. In fulfilment of that mandate, the Council held three regular sessions (fourth, fifth and sixth) during the year, adopting 53 resolutions, 16 decisions, two presidential statements and one draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly. It also held a special session to address the situation of human rights in Myanmar. This chapter focuses on Council actions relating to the promotion of human rights. Other actions covered in the next two chapters address the protection of human rights and human rights country situations.

In its most notable action, the Council, in June, adopted a multidimensional institution-building package that would support and guide its future work, and which was subsequently endorsed by the General Assembly. The main elements included the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, a unique instrument for assessing every four years the human rights records of all Member States, scheduled to commence in 2008; a new subsidiary body named the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, which would serve as the Council's think tank and was mandated to provide it with expertise and advice on thematic human rights issues; and a revised Complaint Procedure component, which would enable individuals and groups to report to the Council consistent patterns of gross human rights violations worldwide. Two working groups were established: the Working Group on Communications was to examine communications on alleged violations, and the Working Group on Situations was to bring such violations to the Council's attention, with recommendations on a course of action. In the same framework, the Council reviewed the status and functioning of the special procedures system, drew up criteria for appointing mandate-holders, revised their terms of tenure, issued a new set of principles for improving their work and adopted a code of conduct to guide them. The institution-building initiative also set out the Council's methods of work and rules of procedure.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights continued to support the work of the Council and its mechanisms, and to that end strengthened country engagement through increased field presence and enhanced thematic expertise relating to key civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights. Human rights were also promoted through the work of the committees of experts (treaty bodies) monitoring compliance with the seven core legally

binding human rights instruments, and by the network of human rights defenders in individual countries operating within the framework of the 1998 Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

In September, the Human Rights Council extended for two years (2008–2009) the first phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education to enable all actors to implement the related Plan of Action adopted in 2005. In further action, the General Assembly proclaimed the International Year of Human Rights Learning, commencing on 10 December 2008, in order to broaden and deepen human rights education and enhance the protection and promotion of fundamental freedoms. The Council also initiated in December an open-ended intergovernmental process to elaborate a new set of human rights voluntary goals designed to promote the realization of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and set to be launched on 10 December 2008 in celebration of the Declaration's sixtieth anniversary.

Following the completion during the year of two decades of negotiations between Governments and indigenous peoples' representatives, the General Assembly in September adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which effectively promoted indigenous rights by establishing a universal framework for ensuring the survival, dignity and well-being of the world's indigenous communities.

Part Two: Human rights
Chapter II (pp. 705–799)
Protection of human rights

RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, 706: Follow-up to 2001 World Conference, 706. CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, 717: Right to nationality, 717; Protection of migrants, 717; Other forms of intolerance, 720; Discrimination against minorities, 723; Right to self-determination, 730; Administration of justice, 736; Other issues, 745. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, 761: Right to development, 762; Extreme poverty, 774; Right to food, 774; Right to adequate housing, 779; Right to education, 780; Environmental and scientific concerns, 781; Right to physical and mental health, 782; Slavery and related issues, 784; Vulnerable groups, 785.

In 2007, the United Nations remained actively engaged in protecting human rights, mostly through the activities of its main organs—the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council—and the Human Rights Council, which assumed the functions of the Commission on Human Rights in 2006.

Notable attention was accorded to the need to step up ongoing global efforts to ensure that no one was subjected to racial discrimination, xenophobia or related intolerance, with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the 2001 UN racism conference continuing to serve as a framework for international action in that regard. Taking the lead, the General Assembly decided that it would join forces with the Economic and Social Council and the Human Rights Council to establish a three-tiered intergovernmental process for implementing the Programme of Action and follow-up activities. The Assembly also emphasized States' responsibility to take action towards that end. The Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference, scheduled to take place in 2009, addressed the objectives of the planned conference, which included a review of the progress made by all stakeholders in implementing the 2001 Programme of Action and an assessment of the effectiveness of existing mechanisms and instruments for tackling racial discrimination.

In related action, the Assembly convened in March a special meeting devoted to the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade; subsequently highlighted racism and prejudice as part of the consequences of that abhorrent practice; and designated 25 March as the International Day of Remembrance of the victims, to be marked yearly beginning in 2008. Those initiatives were reinforced by the Human Rights Council's appointment in September of a special rapporteur to address contemporary forms of slavery and its causes and consequences.

Member States also accorded considerable attention during the year to the protection of minority rights, with the Human Rights Council establishing a Forum on Minority Issues to promote dialogue and cooperation on issues pertaining to persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. The legal framework for safeguarding the rights of the world's estimated 370 million indigenous populations, many of them minorities, was further fortified by the General Assembly's adoption on 13 September of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Declaration, which outlawed discrimination against indigenous populations, established a universal framework of minimum standards for their survival, dignity, well-being and individual and collective rights. In related action, the Human Rights Council established in December an Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to provide thematic expertise on how to better safeguard their interests.

During the year, special procedures of the Human Rights Council, which included special rapporteurs, special representatives, independent experts and working groups, continued to monitor, advise and publicly report on thematic issues or on human rights situations in specific countries. In the aftermath of a 2006 review of special procedures mandate-holders by the Human Rights Council, in 2007 the number of mandates was reduced from 40 to 38, including 28 thematic and 10 country mandates. During the year, mandate-holders undertook 62 fact-finding country visits to 51 countries; sent communications on alleged human rights violations to the Governments concerned; and submitted reports to the Human Rights Council and in some cases also to the General Assembly. Forty-nine per cent of the 1,003 communications sent by special procedures to Governments in 2007 were joint communications by two or more mandate-holders. The ensuing dialogue with Governments and other parties continued to have a positive impact on the enjoyment of human rights.

Further reform efforts geared to maintain momentum in strengthening the institutional framework for protecting human rights were advanced following the establishment in the course of the year of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee, mandated to assume the functions of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, a subsidiary body of the defunct Commission on Human Rights that had been abolished together with the Commission in 2006. It was expected that aspects of thematic human rights issues under the purview of the Subcommission, many of which were not covered in 2007, would be taken up in the future by the Advisory Committee, which would serve as a think tank for the Human Rights Council, providing expertise and advice on studies and research relating to thematic issues before the Council.

Part Two: Human rights
Chapter III (pp. 800–828)
Human rights country situations

GENERAL ASPECTS, 800: Strengthening country engagements, 800. AFRICA, 801: Burundi, 801; Democratic Republic of the Congo, 802; Liberia, 803; Sierra Leone, 803; Somalia, 804; Sudan, 805; Uganda, 808. AMERICAS, 808: Colombia, 808; Cuba, 809; Guatemala, 809; Haiti, 809. ASIA, 810: Afghanistan, 810; Cambodia, 811; Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 812; Iran, 815; Myanmar, 816; Nepal, 821; Sri Lanka, 822; Uzbekistan, 822. EUROPE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN, 822: Belarus, 822; Cyprus, 824. MIDDLE EAST, 824: Lebanon, 824; Territories occupied by Israel, 825.

In 2007, human rights situations of concern in Member States, particularly regarding alleged violations and how best to assist and guide Governments and national institutions in combating them, were addressed by the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, and by special rapporteurs, the Secretary-General's special representatives and independent experts appointed to examine those situations.

In March, a high-level team of experts assembled by the Human Rights Council to examine the human rights situation in the Darfur region of the Sudan, where internal conflict had resulted in egregious violations targeting civilians, reported on its mission and made recommendations on how to better protect human rights in that region. In June, a similar high-level fact-finding mission established by the Council in 2006 to assess the situation of the victims of Israeli military operations in Beit Hanoun in the Gaza Strip (Occupied Palestinian Territory) submitted its findings and recommended measures for improving efforts in promoting and protecting human rights in the area.

In Myanmar, a violent Government repression of peaceful demonstrations resulted in a further deterioration of the human rights situation in the country and prompted a special session of the Human Rights Council in October, which urged the Government to exercise restraint, ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and bring to justice perpetrators of violations. Reinforcing the Council's action in that regard, the General Assembly in December adopted resolution 62/222, by which it expressed concern at the ongoing violations and called on the Government to take immediate measures to end them. The Assembly adopted similar resolutions to address the grim human rights situation in Belarus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Iran.

Also during the year, the High Commissioner for Human Rights reported on the efforts of her Office to strengthen country engagements, especially through increased field presence as the primary means to promote the realization of human rights. Overall, the Human Rights Council, its special procedures and the Office of the High Commissioner stepped up efforts to strengthen advisory services, technical cooperation and monitoring activities for advancing international human rights principles and preventing violations in several countries, including Afghanistan, Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala, Haiti, Iran, Lebanon, Liberia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Uganda and Uzbekistan.

Part Three: Economic and social questions

Chapter I (pp. 831–872)

Development policy and international economic cooperation

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, 832: Development and international economic cooperation, 832; Sustainable development, 841; Eradication of poverty, 847; Science and technology for development, 850. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRENDS, 855. DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, 857: Committee for Development Policy, 857; Public administration, 859. GROUPS OF COUNTRIES IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS, 861: Least developed countries, 861; Island developing States, 868; Landlocked developing countries, 869; Poor mountain countries, 872.

In 2007, the growth of the world economy moderated from 2006 to a nonetheless robust 3.7 per cent. The major drag came from a slowdown in the United States, driven by the slump in the housing sector that became much more serious in the third quarter of the year. Significant spillover effects of the financial turmoil originating in the sub-prime mortgage markets were found in major European economies and, to a lesser extent, in Japan and other developed countries. Growth remained robust at 6.9 per cent in most developing countries, and accelerated to 8.0 per cent among the economies in transition as a result of buoyant commodity prices and strong domestic demand. The performance of the least developed countries (LDCs) remained strong on average, despite slowing somewhat compared with the previous year. The financial turmoil during the third quarter of 2007 signalled downside risks for the global outlook, revealing the lack of adequate supervision and regulation of domestic financial markets, as well as the threat of contagion in increasingly integrated, but also less transparent, international markets. In addition, the turmoil turned the spotlight on the problem of global macroeconomic imbalances.

Eradicating poverty and achieving the other Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), adopted by the General Assembly in 2000, continued to be a major focus of the work of UN bodies in 2007. The Assembly reaffirmed the central role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development and policy coherence on global development issues, as well as its vital role in the promotion of partnerships in the context of globalization and interdependence. Expressing concern that, after the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) and midway to the 2015 MDGs target date, progress in reducing poverty had been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continued to increase, the Assembly, in December, proclaimed the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) in order to support in an efficient and coordinated manner the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, and reiterated the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development. The Economic and Social Council devoted its high-level segment to the question of strengthening efforts at all levels to promote pro-poor sustained economic growth, including through equitable macroeconomic policies. During the segment, the Council launched the Development Cooperation Forum, held its first annual ministerial review of progress made in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs, on the theme of strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for development, and adopted a Ministerial Declaration on the subject.

The Commission on Sustainable Development continued to oversee the follow-up to the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, which reviewed progress in implementing Agenda 21, the action plan on sustainable development adopted by the 1992 United Nations Conference

on Environment and Development. The Commission focused on the thematic cluster of energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change. The General Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, particularly the Johannesburg Declaration and the Plan of Implementation, including the time-bound goals and targets, and the other internationally agreed development goals.

The Assembly recognized that science and technology, including information and communications technologies, were vital for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs, and for the full participation of developing countries in the global economy. It reaffirmed the strong development orientation of the outcomes of the first (2003) and second (2005) phases of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and urged their full implementation. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development considered the theme of promoting the building of a people-centred, development-oriented and inclusive information society, focusing also on the review of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS at the regional and international levels.

During the year, the Assembly reaffirmed that the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the Decade 2001–2010, adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 2001, constituted a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership aimed at accelerating sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the LDCs, and stressed the need to address, within the time frame set by the Programme of Action, areas of weakness in its implementation and the continued precarious socio-economic situation in some LDCs through a strong commitment to its objectives, goals and targets.

In other actions regarding countries in special situations, UN bodies continued to review progress in the implementation of the 1994 Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the 2005 Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action. The Assembly reaffirmed the Mauritius Strategy and recognized the need to increase the level of resources provided to small island developing States for its effective implementation. As to landlocked developing countries, the Secretary-General reviewed progress in the status of preparations for the midterm review, to be held in 2008, of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, adopted in 2003 by the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation. Two thematic meetings were held as part of the preparatory process for the midterm review, and the Ulaanbaatar Declaration, which addressed the particular needs and challenges faced by landlocked developing countries, was adopted in August.

Part Three: Economic and social questions

Chapter II (pp. 873–910)

Operational activities for development

SYSTEM-WIDE ACTIVITIES, 873. TECHNICAL COOPERATION THROUGH UNDP, 887: UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board, 887; UNDP operational activities, 889; Programme planning and management, 892; Financing, 898. OTHER TECHNICAL COOPERATION, 902: Development Account, 902; UN activities, 903; UN Office for Partnerships, 903; UN Office for Project Services, 904; UN Volunteers, 906; Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries, 906; UN Capital Development Fund, 909.

In 2007, the United Nations system continued to provide development assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the central United Nations funding body for technical assistance. UNDP income reached \$5.6 billion, compared to \$5.1 billion in 2006. Total expenditure for all programme activities and support costs in 2007 remained unchanged at \$4.8 billion. Technical cooperation funded through other sources included \$58.9 million provided through the programme executed by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Regular resources expenditures of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) for programme activities in the least developed countries increased to \$19 million, from \$16.8 million in the previous year. At year's end, United Nations Foundation allocations to projects of the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships reached approximately \$1.03 billion.

The United Nations completed a triennial comprehensive policy review of UN system operational activities for development, which assessed the extent to which the UN system provided efficient and effective support to developing countries for the realization of their national development strategies and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In August, the Secretary-General put forth recommendations aimed at enhancing operational activities at the country level. In December, the General Assembly adopted an outline for future UN system development activities.

In September, the UNDP/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Board adopted the UNDP strategic plan, 2008–2011, which set the overall direction for support to programme countries for accelerating progress in human development. The plan highlighted the urgent need for additional efforts by the international community towards achievement of the MDGs by all developing countries by 2015. It articulated UNDP's roles in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the UN system at the country level, and in providing knowledge, policy advice, advocacy and technical support in four focus areas: poverty reduction, democratic governance, crisis prevention and recovery, and environment and sustainable development.

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) delivered \$850 million through project implementation, and business acquisition reached a record level of \$1.48 billion. In February, the UNOPS Executive Director agreed to a proposal made by the Director of the UNDP Office of Audit and Performance Review (OAPR), under which OAPR would terminate its services with effect from 30 June and hand over its function to a newly established audit office at UNOPS headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark. In September, the Executive Board welcomed the transfer of the direct procurement functions carried out by the Inter-Agency Procurement Services Office with respect to common user items, and the associated strengthening of UNOPS as a central procurement resource for the UN system.

In 2007, some 7,521 volunteers working for the UNDP-administered United Nations Volunteer programme carried out 7,766 assignments in 139 countries.

The High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation reviewed progress in implementing the 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) and the new directions strategy for TCDC/South-South cooperation. In December, the General Assembly invited the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation and the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board to consider measures to further strengthen the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation as a separate entity and a focal point for South-South cooperation in the UN system.

UNCDF fully achieved its targeted programmatic results and its objective of geographical expansion. In June, the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board asked UNDP and UNCDF to finalize the details of their strategic partnership, which was aimed at improving the efficiency, effectiveness and coherence of both bodies. The Board reiterated its request that UNDP and UNFPA continue their efforts to secure stable programme funding for UNCDF activities.

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Chapter III (pp. 911–964)

Humanitarian and special economic assistance

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, 911: Coordination, 911; Resource mobilization, 918; Mine clearance, 919; Humanitarian activities, 920. SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, 930: African economic recovery and development, 930; Other economic assistance, 941. DISASTER RESPONSE, 943: International cooperation, 944; Disaster reduction, 947; Disaster assistance, 952.

In 2007, the United Nations, through the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), continued to mobilize and coordinate humanitarian assistance in response to international emergencies. During the year, consolidated and flash appeals were launched for Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, the Great Lakes Region, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Peru, Somalia, the Sudan, Swaziland, Timor-Leste, Uganda, the West Africa subregion, Zambia and Zimbabwe. OCHA received contributions for natural disaster assistance totalling \$821.3 million.

The Ad Hoc Advisory Groups on Guinea-Bissau and Haiti continued to develop long-term programmes of support for those countries. To promote progress, the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau invited the Economic and Social Council to consider placing the country on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission.

Efforts continued to implement the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015, the 10-year plan for reducing disaster risks adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005. In line with the Framework, activities were under-taken to strengthen the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, established as the successor to the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction, held its first session in June, and in September the Secretary-General issued a report on the global survey of early warning systems. Further progress was also made in the development and implementation of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System.

During the year, the Economic and Social Council considered ways to strengthen UN humanitarian assistance coordination by implementing improved humanitarian response at all levels, with particular attention to recent humanitarian emergencies. Implementation of the humanitarian reform agenda advanced, with the Humanitarian Reform Support Unit providing support to humanitarian coordinators, field teams and agencies. An evaluation of the “cluster leadership approach” identified the achievements gained and challenges faced in its implementation. The Central Emergency Response Fund continued to allow for the rapid provision of assistance to populations affected by sudden-onset disasters and underfunded emergencies.

International efforts to address the consequences of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear accident and promote recovery of the disaster continued. In February, Russian tennis player Maria Sharapova, whose family had roots in Belarus, one of the Chernobyl-affected countries, was appointed as a United Nations Development Programme Goodwill Ambassador.

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Chapter IV (pp. 965–1005)

International trade, finance and transport

INTERNATIONAL TRADE, 966: Trade policy, 972; Trade promotion and facilitation, 975; Commodities, 979. FINANCE, 980: Financial policy, 980; Financing for development, 989; Investment, technology and related financial issues, 994. TRANSPORT, 998: Maritime transport, 998; Transport of dangerous goods, 998. UNCTAD INSTITUTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS, 1001: Preparations for UNCTAD XII, 1004.

In 2007, world merchandise trade remained a driving force of the world economy, growing by 7 per cent, with developed countries contributing about 45 per cent, developing Asia 40 per cent and other developing countries 14–15 per cent. However, both in volume and in dollar value, trade growth lost some of its strength, particularly for developed economies. Strong export growth in the United States, stimulated by the significant depreciation of the dollar, surpassed growth in import demand, leading to a reduction in that economy's trade deficit. That was reflected in smaller surpluses elsewhere, especially in Europe, Japan and some developing regions. The adjustments were small and did not contribute materially to the required global macroeconomic rebalancing. Non-oil commodity prices continued increasing on the heels of robust global demand, but they also became more volatile. World market prices for many food crops rose significantly, in particular for wheat and maize, driven by increased biofuel demand. Oil prices surged to nearly \$100 per barrel, as strong demand, especially from developing countries, eliminated much of the slack capacity in the oil market.

The multilateral trade negotiations in the Doha Round resumed in February. Discussions continued to be focused on agriculture and non-agricultural market access, and the positions of the major negotiating parties remained largely unchanged, despite intense diplomatic activities.

Developing countries continued to make significant outward transfers of financial resources to developed economies, albeit at a slower pace. Total net transfers from developing countries increased from \$728 billion in 2006 to \$760 billion in 2007. The increase came almost exclusively from East and South Asia, while other developing country sub-groups registered some decline. Those outward transfers took place in the context of continued substantial net private capital inflows to developing and transition economies. Robust private capital flows to those economies helped to sustain growth in emerging markets and to insulate them from the turmoil emanating from financial markets in developed countries.

In December, the General Assembly reaffirmed the value of multilateralism to the global trading system and the commitment to a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system. It underlined the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations. It then noted the importance for developing countries that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments. The General Assembly also recognized the need to enhance the coherence, governance and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems and to ensure their openness, fairness and inclusiveness. It further stressed the value of international financial stability and sustainable growth. Reiterating the importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, the Assembly emphasized that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks should be taken into account. It underlined that long-term sustainability of debt depended, among

other things, on the economic growth, mobilization of domestic resources and export prospects of debtor countries.

In April, the tenth high-level meeting between the Economic and Social Council and the Bretton Woods institutions (World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) discussed coherence, coordination and cooperation in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, adopted at the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development. The Assembly decided to hold the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008.

In April, at its forty-first executive session, the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board (TDB), the governing body of UNCTAD, adopted an agreed outcome on the theme and sub-themes for the twelfth (2008) session of UNCTAD, and on recommendations of the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on enhancing the development role and impact of UNCTAD. At its fifty-fourth session, in October, TDB adopted agreed conclusions on the review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 and on the contents of a report by the UNCTAD secretariat titled *Economic Development in Africa: Reclaiming Policy Space—Domestic Resource Mobilization and Developmental States*. The Board also adopted a decision on the review of UNCTAD technical cooperation activities.

The International Trade Centre, operated jointly by UNCTAD and WTO, increased its delivery of technical assistance by 14 per cent to \$28.9 million.

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Chapter V (pp. 1006–1037)

Regional economic and social activities

REGIONAL COOPERATION, 1006. AFRICA, 1008: Economic trends, 1008; Activities in 2007, 1009; Programme and organizational questions, 1014. ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, 1015: Economic trends, 1016; Activities in 2007, 1017; Programme and organizational questions, 1021. EUROPE, 1022: Economic trends, 1023; Activities in 2007, 1023; Programme and organizational questions, 1027. LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, 1027: Economic trends, 1027; Activities in 2007, 1027; Programme and organizational questions, 1033. WESTERN ASIA, 1033: Economic and social trends, 1033; Activities in 2007, 1034; Programme and organizational questions, 1037.

In 2007, the five regional commissions of the United Nations continued to provide technical cooperation, including advisory services, to their member States. They also promoted programmes and projects and provided training to enhance national capacity-building in various sectors. Three of them—the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)—held regular sessions during the year. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) did not meet in 2007, but were scheduled to do so in 2008.

The Executive Secretaries of the commissions continued to meet periodically to exchange views and coordinate activities and positions on major development issues. In July, the Economic and Social Council held a dialogue with the Executive Secretaries on the theme “Regional aspects of the themes of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council’s 2007 substantive session”. In October, the regional commissions signed a cooperation framework agreement with the United Nations Development Programme to optimize their comparative advantages and seek complementarities and synergies in their work at the regional and country levels.

At its April session, ECE asked its Executive Secretary to develop further points with regard to ECE reform in order to enhance the functioning of its secretariat and sectoral committees. In a July resolution, the Council endorsed ECA’s proposals regarding its intergovernmental machinery, by which ECA’s subsidiary organs would be organized into seven sectoral committees. ECA and ECE continued to collaborate on the project for a Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar. The Council requested the Executive Secretaries of both Commissions to continue to play an active part in the follow-up to the project.

The theme of ESCAP’S May session addressed the development of health systems in the context of enhancing economic growth towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the Asia and Pacific region.

While ESCWA reported robust economic growth for the Arab region in 2007, it continued to express concern about some social development issues, particularly youth unemployment. ECLAC, too, reported positive economic figures for Latin America and the Caribbean for 2007, while treating job creation as a priority topic. In a July resolution, the Council approved the admission of the Republic of Korea as a member of ECLAC.

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Chapter VI (pp. 1038–1044)

Energy, natural resources and cartography

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, 1038: Energy, 1040; Natural resources, 1043.
CARTOGRAPHY, 1044.

The conservation, development and use of energy and natural resources were considered by several UN bodies in 2007, including the Commission on Sustainable Development, which completed its two-year implementation cycle (2006–2007) on energy for sustainable development, industrial development, air pollution/atmosphere and climate change. For the next implementation cycle (2008–2009), the Commission recommended the thematic cluster of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa.

Recognizing the crucial role of energy for sustainable development, poverty eradication and achievement of internationally agreed development goals, the Commission acknowledged the importance of access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services, particularly for developing countries. Throughout the 2007 session, energy was a central topic of the Commission's discussions, including the issues of fossil fuels and their role in the energy mix; the need to substantially increase the global share of renewable energy sources; and the importance of accelerating access by the poor to sustainable energy services.

The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mohamed ElBaradei, in his annual address to the General Assembly in October, reviewed the Agency's milestones since its creation 50 years earlier and described its current challenges and developments. He noted that technological and institutional innovation was a key factor in ensuring the long-term sustainability of nuclear power and stressed that the nuclear non-proliferation and arms control regime faced serious concerns as nuclear power continued to expand.

The theme "Coping with water scarcity" was the focus of World Water Day (22 March) and the main subject of the *UN-Water Annual Report 2007*. UN reports indicated that an estimated 1.2 billion people, or nearly one fifth of the world's population, lived in areas where there was a water shortage and that the problem of water insecurity could be linked to climate change.

In August, the Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names was held to consider reports from Governments and experts on the situation in their regions and countries, and on progress made since the previous conference in 2002. Among other action, it acknowledged the creation of a Portuguese-speaking Division in the Secretariat, and called for the promotion of the recording and use of indigenous, minority and regional language group geographical names and implementation of romanization systems.

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Chapter VII (pp. 1045–1090)

Environment and human settlements

ENVIRONMENT, 1045: UN Environment Programme, 1045; International conventions and mechanisms, 1059; Environmental activities, 1066. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS, 1081: Follow-up to the 1996 UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the 2001 General Assembly special session, 1081; UN Human Settlements Programme, 1086.

In 2007, the United Nations and the international community continued to work towards protecting the environment through legally binding instruments and the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The twenty-fourth session of the UNEP Governing Council/eighth Global Ministerial Environment Forum discussed the emerging policy themes of globalization and the environment and UN reform, and adopted the updated UNEP water policy and strategy for the period 2007–2012. The Governing Council also adopted decisions on, among other issues, international environmental governance; chemicals and waste management; support to Africa in environmental management and protection; and environmental education.

During the year, UNEP published the fourth *Global Environment Outlook* report, which assessed the state of the environment and presented policy options to address present and emerging environmental issues.

In September, the Secretary-General convened a high-level event on climate change to raise the profile of the issue among world leaders and build momentum for launching negotiations on a new international framework to address climate change; the event was the largest gathering of world leaders on climate change to date. The thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Bali, Indonesia, in December, launched the Bali Action Plan, a comprehensive process to enable the full, effective and sustained implementation of the Convention through long-term cooperative action. The twenty-seventh session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), held in Valencia, Spain, in November, finalized the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, which stated, among other findings, that climate system warming was unequivocal, and that many natural systems were being affected by regional climate changes. In December, the Nobel Prize in Peace 2007 was awarded jointly to IPCC and former United States Vice President Albert Arnold Gore, Jr., for their efforts related to the issue of climate change.

In April, the United Nations Forum on Forests adopted the text of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, and recommended a draft resolution for adoption by the Economic and Social Council containing the text of the instrument and a related draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly. The Council adopted the draft resolution in October. The Assembly adopted the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests in December. It also declared the 2010–2020 period as the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification.

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) continued to support the implementation of the 1996 Habitat Agenda and the Millennium Development Goals. The twenty-first session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council adopted the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for 2008–2013, which provided a road map for strengthening the role of UN-Habitat as a catalyst for the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

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Chapter VIII (pp. 1091–1104)

Population

FOLLOW-UP TO 1994 CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, 1091: Implementation of Programme of Action, 1091; International migration and development, 1094. UN POPULATION FUND, 1094. OTHER POPULATION ACTIVITIES, 1102.

For the first time in history, by the end of 2007, more than 3.3 billion people—half of the world's population—were living in urban areas. That number was expected to swell to almost 5 billion by 2030, with most of the growth occurring in developing countries. The urban population of Africa and Asia was expected to double between 2000 and 2030, whereas that of the developed countries was projected to grow relatively little, from 870 million to 1.01 billion.

UN population activities continued to be guided, in 2007, by the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the key actions for its implementation adopted at the twenty-first special session of the General Assembly in 1999. The Commission on Population and Development, the body responsible for monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action, considered as its special theme “Changing age structures of population and their implications for development”. The Population Division continued to analyse and report on world demographic trends and policies and to make its findings available in publications and on the Internet.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) assisted countries in implementing the ICPD agenda and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through their use of population data to formulate sound policies and programmes. In 2007, UNFPA provided assistance to 159 countries and territories, with special emphasis on increasing the availability and quality of reproductive health services, fighting gender discrimination, formulating effective population policies and intensifying HIV prevention.

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Chapter IX (pp. 1105–1151)

Social policy, crime prevention and human resources development

SOCIAL POLICY AND CULTURAL ISSUES, 1105: Social development, 1105; Persons with disabilities, 1116; Cultural development, 1119. CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, 1125: Follow-up to Eleventh UN Crime Congress, 1125; Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, 1127; Administrative and financial matters, 1127; Crime prevention programme, 1129; Transnational organized crime, 1134; Strategies for crime prevention, 1134; UN standards and norms, 1142; Other crime prevention and criminal justice issues, 1147. HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, 1148: UN Institute for Training and Research, 1150.

During 2007, the United Nations continued to promote social, cultural and human resources development, and to strengthen its crime prevention and criminal justice programme.

The Commission for Social Development, in February, considered as its priority theme “Promoting full employment and decent work for all”. It also reviewed relevant UN plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups and discussed the emerging issue of youth employment: impact, challenges and opportunities for social development.

The General Assembly considered the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action, adopted at the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, and further initiatives for social development adopted at its twenty-fourth (2000) special session. The Assembly discussed the follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the 1994 International Year of the Family and declared that the date of 20 February would be celebrated annually as the World Day of Social Justice. Following discussions on the theme of “The role of the United Nations system in promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all”, during its coordination segment, the Economic and Social Council, in July, adopted a resolution on the subject in which it requested members of the UN system to continue to incorporate the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all in their policies, programmes and activities.

With regard to persons with disabilities, UN bodies continued to monitor the implementation of the 1982 World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, adopted by the Assembly in 1993. The 2006 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities opened for signature on 30 March.

In the area of cultural development, the Assembly held the two-day High-level Dialogue on Interreligious and Intercultural Understanding and Cooperation for Peace in October and, in a December resolution, declared 2010 the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures. In other action, the Assembly urged Member States to observe the Olympic Truce during the 2008 Olympic Games, decided to observe the International Day of Non-Violence on 2 October each year, and recognized the year from 12 September 2007 to 11 September 2008 as the year commemorating the Ethiopian Millennium.

In April, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice considered, among other things, the follow-up to the Eleventh (2005) United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Twelfth (2010) Congress;

technical assistance for implementing conventions and protocols related to terrorism; the 2008–2011 strategy for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of economic fraud and identity-related crime; UN standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice; strengthening basic principles of judicial conduct; supporting national efforts for child justice reform; and the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa.

In a December resolution, the Assembly urged the international community to support the efforts of developing countries in formulating human resources development strategies that promoted technological capability. In other action related to human resources development, the Assembly welcomed progress made in building partnerships between the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and other UN bodies with respect to training and capacity-development programmes and appealed to Governments and private institutions to give UNITAR generous financial and other support.

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Chapter X (pp. 1152–1200)

Women

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND BEIJING+5, 1152: Critical areas of concern, 1157. UN MACHINERY, 1189: Convention on the elimination of discrimination against women, 1189; Commission on the Status of Women, 1193; UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), 1193; International Research and Training Institute (INSTRAW), 1197.

In 2007, United Nations efforts to advance the status of women worldwide continued to be guided by the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth (1995) World Conference on Women, and the outcome of the General Assembly's twenty-third (2000) special session, which reviewed progress in their implementation (Beijing+5). The Secretary-General decided to spearhead a multi-year system-wide campaign to eliminate violence against women and girls through 2015, coinciding with the target date of the Millennium Development Goals, and the Assembly adopted three resolutions addressing violence against women, including sexual violence and violence against migrant workers. The Assembly also adopted resolutions on the girl child, ending obstetric fistula, women in development and the situation of women in rural areas, and proclaimed 15 October as the International Day of Rural Women. On the issue of women, peace and security, the Security Council urged the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys. Attention also focused on rape and sexual violence in armed conflict. In March, 12 UN system entities launched the "United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict". Progress was achieved in gender mainstreaming with the establishment by the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Women of an ad hoc working group, which would facilitate efforts to develop a system-wide action plan to operationalize the policy and strategy on gender mainstreaming endorsed in 2006 by the Chief Executives Board for Coordination. In April, the Secretary-General issued a report on the 2006 recommendations of the High-level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence, including the proposed new UN gender architecture, and suggested ways to take forward intergovernmental consideration of the Panel's report.

At its fifty-first session in March, the Commission on the Status of Women convened high-level panel discussions and adopted agreed conclusions on the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child, which was the priority theme of the session. The Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council for adoption a draft resolution on assistance to Palestinian women. It also adopted resolutions on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS; ending female genital mutilation; and the forced marriage of the girl child. Informal discussions were held on the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality and financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The United Nations Development Fund for Women continued to focus on the implementation of its multi-year funding framework, which targeted goals in four key areas: feminized poverty, violence against women, HIV/AIDS, and gender equality and democratic governance. Efforts to enlarge and diversify its regular resource base were successful and the Fund exceeded its target in regular resources for 2007, reaching \$44 million, nearly double the 2004 total. In December, the General Assembly decided on the terms of office of the Consultative Committee for the Fund with a view to maintaining its institutional memory.

The United Nations continued to strengthen and revitalize the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. The Executive Board took decisions to

enhance the Institute's strategic framework for the period 2008–2011. Although projected income for the 2006–2007 biennium was sufficient to cover projected expenditures through 31 December, the financial situation of the Institute remained precarious. In October, the Executive Board presented solutions for securing sustained resources to fund core activities and placing the Institute's financial situation on a more stable basis.

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Chapter XI (pp. 1201–1233)

Children, youth and ageing persons

CHILDREN, 1201: Follow-up to the 2002 General Assembly special session on children, 1201; United Nations Children's Fund, 1204. YOUTH, 1220. AGEING PERSONS, 1230: Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing (2002), 1230.

In 2007, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) continued its efforts to ensure that every child received the best possible start in life; was fully immunized and protected from disease, including HIV/AIDS, and disability; had access to a quality primary school education; and was protected from violence, abuse, exploitation and discrimination.

UNICEF continued to focus on the five priority areas of: young child survival and development; basic education and gender equality; HIV/AIDS and children; child protection from violence, exploitation and abuse; and policy advocacy and partnerships for children's rights. The Fund cooperated with 155 countries, areas and territories in 2007 and also responded to emergencies in more than 68 countries.

In December, the General Assembly held the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children in order to evaluate progress made in the implementation of the Declaration and the Plan of Action adopted at the Assembly's twenty-seventh special session on children in 2002. The high-level meeting culminated in the adoption of a declaration in which Member States reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of the special session's outcome document, "A world fit for children", and confirmed their determination to pursue the agreed global targets and actions for mobilizing resources for children, in accordance with that document.

Efforts continued during the year to implement the 1995 World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond. In December, the Assembly, on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council, adopted the Supplement to the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, which contained proposals for action on behalf of youth in the areas of globalization, information and communications technology, HIV/AIDS, armed conflict and intergenerational issues.

The United Nations also continued its efforts to implement the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, adopted in 2002 by the Second World Assembly on Ageing. At its February session, the Commission for Social Development held a panel discussion to launch the first review and appraisal of the Plan of Action, which would be completed in 2008. In December, the Assembly encouraged Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons by including ageing issues in poverty eradication strategies and national development plans.

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Chapter XII (pp. 1234–1259)

Refugees and displaced persons

OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, 1234: Programme policy, 1234; Financial and administrative questions, 1241. REFUGEE PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE, 1243: Protection issues, 1243; Assistance measures, 1244; Regional activities, 1247.

In 2007, although the total number of persons of concern to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) dropped to 31.7 million, from 32.9 million in 2006, the refugee population worldwide increased for the second consecutive year, owing to conflicts in the Horn of Africa and in Iraq. Of the total, some 13.7 million were internally displaced persons (IDPs), followed by nearly 11.4 million refugees, 3 million stateless persons and 740,000 asylum-seekers. An estimated 2.8 million refugees and IDPs returned to their place of origin, most of them with assistance from UNHCR. Africa hosted a quarter (2.4 million) of the global refugee population and half of the world's 24.5 million IDPs. The United States accepted more than half of the refugees resettled globally under UNHCR auspices, or some 31,800 individuals.

During the year, UNHCR achieved success in finding durable solutions in some regions, yet was hampered by constraints in other areas. Positive developments included the conclusion of repatriation operations in Angola and Liberia; the return home of 730,640 refugees, mainly to Afghanistan (373,856); and the return of an estimated 2.1 million IDPs protected/assisted by UNHCR to their places of origin, including 1 million to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and 579,000 to Uganda. Despite those gains, the Office faced significant challenges in its operations, such as conditions in Iraq not conducive to organizing returns and the plight of 2.4 million people displaced inside the country, as well as an estimated 1.5 to 2 million Iraqi refugees in host countries; humanitarian crises in Africa that were exacerbated by renewed conflict and insecurity in Chad, the DRC, Somalia and Darfur (Sudan), and resulted in further displacement or heightened risk and violence against women and girls; the worsening security environment in Afghanistan; and the impact of the global rise in food prices on refugees and IDPs who depended on humanitarian assistance. The issue of “mixed migration” flows—situations in which people with different objectives moved alongside each other—remained a concern, particularly in Asia, as Governments focused attention on security aspects of migration. Moreover, for the first time in 20 years, UNHCR resettlement submissions exceeded the places made available by States, raising concern that there were significantly more people in need of resettlement than there were places available.

In addition to its core assistance and protection activities, UNHCR committed itself to further analysis and dialogue on emerging concerns, such as issues affecting States' efforts to manage migration, as well as the causes of displacement (extreme deprivation, environmental degradation and climate change, conflict and persecution), which were becoming increasingly complex. In April, the High Commissioner for Refugees held an international conference on addressing the humanitarian needs of refugees and IDPs in Iraq and neighbouring countries, which agreed on the need to find solutions for the vulnerable and galvanized international support for refugee-hosting countries. In order to facilitate discussions between UNHCR, States and other stakeholders on issues related to protection, the High Commissioner also held, in December, the first of a planned series of annual dialogues on protection challenges, which addressed the issue of protection for people caught up in mixed migration movements. In October, the UNHCR Executive Committee adopted a conclusion on children at risk, which included guidelines and standards for strengthening the protection of children at risk.

The financial situation of UNHCR improved in 2007. Due to administrative and budgetary measures, an upward trend in global staff costs was reversed, enabling UNHCR to allocate \$15 million in cost savings to needs in the areas of malnutrition, malaria, reproductive health, and sexual and gender-based violence in several operations. During the year, UNHCR continued to assess its mission and implement structural and management reform.

Part Three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XIII (pp. 1260–1274)

Health, food and nutrition

HEALTH, 1260: AIDS prevention and control, 1260; World Autism Awareness Day, 1266; Tobacco, 1267; Roll Back Malaria initiative, 1267; Global public health, 1271; Road safety, 1271. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, 1272: Food aid, 1272; Food security, 1273. NUTRITION, 1273.

In 2007, the United Nations continued to promote human health and food security, coordinate food aid and support research in nutrition.

At the end of the year, about 33.2 million people were living with HIV/AIDS and an estimated 2.5 million became infected with the virus. Deaths due to AIDS-related illnesses were estimated at 2.1 million. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Health Organization (WHO) observed that, despite the scaling up of antiretroviral treatment, AIDS remained a leading cause of mortality worldwide and the primary cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa. UNAIDS, as coordinator of AIDS activities in the UN system, involved an increasing number of actors in the response to the epidemic, including civil society, the private sector, treatment activists and Governments. In December, the General Assembly decided to convene, in June 2008, a high-level meeting to review progress achieved in realizing the targets set in the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS.

WHO reported to the Assembly that despite significant political and financial commitments to control malaria, more than 500 million people suffered from the acute form of the disease every year, resulting in an annual toll of 1 million deaths. In a December resolution, the Assembly welcomed a decision by the World Health Assembly to commemorate Malaria Day on 25 April and urged Member States and the international community to enhance the quality of malaria-related activities. Also in December, the Assembly designated 2 April as World Autism Awareness Day, to be observed annually beginning in 2008. In other health-related action, the Assembly called for efforts to end obstetric fistula (**resolution 62/138**) (see p. 1169).

In April, the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration organized the first UN Global Road Safety Week, which focused on young road users and aimed to raise awareness about the societal impact of road traffic injuries. As part of the observation of that event, the World Youth Assembly for Road Safety provided over 400 youngsters from 100 countries with the opportunity to share experiences and create a global network of young road safety advocates.

In 2007, the World Food Programme (WFP) distributed 3.3 million metric tons of food aid, assisting a total of 86.1 million hungry people in 80 countries. The aid was provided through development projects, emergency operations and protracted relief and recovery operations.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continued to implement the Plan of Action adopted at the 1996 World Food Summit and the Declaration of the 2002 World Food Summit, which called on the international community to fulfil the pledge to halve the number of undernourished people by 2015.

Part Three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XIV (pp. 1275–1312)

International drug control

FOLLOW-UP TO THE TWENTIETH SPECIAL SESSION, 1275. CONVENTIONS, 1281: International Narcotics Control Board, 1283. WORLD DRUG SITUATION, 1285. UN ACTION TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE, 1298: UN Office on Drugs and Crime, 1298; Commission on Narcotic Drugs, 1307; Strengthening UN mechanisms, 1312.

In 2007, the United Nations continued to strengthen international cooperation to counter the world drug problem, mainly through the activities of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Those activities focused, in particular, on carrying out the 1999 Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which served as a guide for Member States in adopting strategies and programmes for reducing illicit drug demand in order to achieve significant results by 212008.

UNODC provided technical assistance, legal advice and research to the main UN drug control policymaking bodies and Member States, assisted States in implementing the provisions of the international drug control conventions and supported INCB in monitoring their implementation. It also supported States in illicit crop monitoring and alternative development programmes within the framework of poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies, and promoted a holistic approach to drug control, with a view to improving the health and welfare, and economic development in regions dependent on drug crops. It increased its support for drug prevention, treatment and rehabilitation, helped to establish drug control agencies, build border posts, strengthen the judiciary and improve interdiction measures.

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs—the main UN policymaking body dealing with drug control—recommended a number of draft resolutions to the Economic and Social Council and adopted resolutions on the follow-up to the General Assembly’s twentieth (1998) special session on countering the world drug problem, implementation of the international drug control treaties, demand reduction and the prevention of drug abuse, illicit drug trafficking and supply, and administrative and budgetary matters.

In July, the Council urged Governments to help maintain a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes and to prevent the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials. It emphasized the importance of UNODC and other relevant intergovernmental organizations carrying out training programmes to support the adoption of sound methods and the harmonization of indicators used for providing statistics on drug use, and approved the UNODC 2008–2011 strategy. Recognizing the need to intensify efforts for eliminating opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, in accordance with that country’s National Drug Control Strategy, the Council called upon Afghanistan to strengthen its counter-narcotic programmes, encouraged the international community to support the implementation of the Strategy, and called upon States and international organizations to provide additional financial resources and technical assistance. In December, the Assembly adopted a resolution on international cooperation against the world drug problem that addressed follow-up to the twentieth special session and action by the UN system. It recognized that positive results could be achieved through sustained and collective efforts and reaffirmed that there should be a balanced approach between demand and supply reduction.

INCB reviewed the implementation of alternative development programmes, highlighting best practices and models for increasing their effectiveness. It continued to oversee the implementation of the three major international drug control conventions, analyse the drug situation worldwide and draw the attention of Governments to weaknesses in national control and treaty compliance, making suggestions and recommendations for improvements at the national and international levels.

Part Three: Economic and social questions

Chapter XV (pp. 1313–1321)

Statistics

WORK OF STATISTICAL COMMISSION, 1313: Economic statistics, 1314; Demographic and social statistics, 1317; Other statistical activities, 1319.

During 2007, the United Nations continued its work in the area of statistics mainly through the activities of the Statistical Commission and the United Nations Statistics Division. In March, the Statistical Commission adopted the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 2*; the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting for Water; and the package of recommendations on the update of the System of National Accounts, 1993. The Commission recognized the importance of statistical capacity-building and the need for continuous improvement of the statistics required to track progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It also approved its draft multi-year programme of work for 2007–2010.

The Commission reviewed the work of groups of countries and international organizations in various areas of economic, social, demographic and environment statistics and made specific recommendations and suggestions.

Part Four: Legal questions
Chapter I (pp. 1325–1333)
International Court of Justice

JUDICIAL WORK OF THE COURT, 1325; OTHER QUESTIONS, 1333.

In 2007, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) delivered four Judgments, made five Orders and had 12 contentious cases pending before it. In a 1 November address to the General Assembly, the ICJ President, Judge Rosalyn Higgins, reported that after prodigious efforts, the backlog of cases before the Court was expected to be cleared by 2008. States that were considering bringing cases before the Court could be confident that it would respond promptly. She recalled that 2007 marked the one hundredth anniversary of the Hague Peace Conference, where the idea of a standing international court was born. She noted that the previous two decades had seen the burgeoning of international courts and tribunals equipped to deal with disputes arising under the growing reach of international law, and the interest of States in the Court had continued to flourish. The ICJ President also expressed concern regarding the adoption of a General Assembly resolution on the conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials, which, she stated, would create inequality among judges.

Part Four: Legal questions
Chapter II (pp. 1334–1355)
International tribunals and court

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA, 1334: The Chambers, 1335; Office of the Prosecutor, 1339; The Registry, 1340; Financing, 1340. INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA, 1342: The Chambers, 1343; Office of the Prosecutor, 1346; The Registry, 1346; Financing, 1347. FUNCTIONING OF THE TRIBUNALS, 1349: Implementation of completion strategies, 1350. INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, 1351: The Chambers, 1353.

In 2007, the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (ICTY) made significant progress towards accomplishing its mandate by 2010 by adopting a number of concrete measures, including various rule amendments aimed at increasing the efficiency and efficacy of trial and appeal proceedings. For the first time in the Tribunal's history, its three Trial Chambers ran seven trials simultaneously, three of which were multi-accused trials involving 18 accused. Two arrests were made during the year. With the exception of those two arrests, the Tribunal expected to be able to complete all of its trials by the end of 2009, and possibly all appeals by the end of 2011.

During the year, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (ICTR) intensified its prosecutorial and judicial work and strengthened efforts to improve the Tribunal's system. It delivered three Trial Chamber judgements and four Appeal Chamber judgements, completed two cases concerning five accused, and made major progress in presenting the defence cases in seven trials involving 18 accused.

The International Criminal Court, in its fourth year of functioning, continued investigations into situations of concern in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Uganda and the Darfur region of the Sudan, and judicial proceedings took place on each of those situations. Six arrest warrants were outstanding—two related to the situation in Darfur and four related to the situation in Uganda (the four warrants concerning Uganda had been outstanding since July 2005). On 22 May, the Prosecutor announced his decision to open an investigation into the situation in the Central African Republic.

Part Four: Legal questions
Chapter III (pp. 1356–1387)
International legal questions

LEGAL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL RELATIONS, 1356; International Law Commission, 1356; International State relations and international law, 1364; Privileges and immunities, 1368; Diplomatic relations, 1368; Treaties and agreements, 1371. OTHER INTERNATIONAL LEGAL QUESTIONS, 1373; Rule of law at national and international levels, 1373; International economic law, 1374; International organizations and international law, 1380; Host country relations, 1385.

In 2007, the International Law Commission continued to examine topics relating to the progressive development and codification of international law. It recommended the second reading of draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers, and established a working group on shared natural resources. The General Assembly, in December, commended to the attention of Governments a set of draft articles on diplomatic protection and a set of draft principles on transboundary harm from hazardous activities, which the Commission had submitted in previous years. Governments were invited to submit comments, including on elaborating conventions on those topics.

The Ad Hoc Committee established by the Assembly continued to elaborate a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism. In July, the Secretary-General reported on measures taken by States, UN system entities and intergovernmental organizations to implement the 1994 General Assembly Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism. In December, the Assembly condemned all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable and called upon States to adopt further measures to prevent terrorism.

At its fortieth session, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) adopted the UNCITRAL Legislative Guide on Secured Transactions and recommended that States utilize it to assess the economic activity of their secured transactions regimes. It also held a Congress on “Modern Law for Global Commerce”, which reviewed the results of the Commission’s past work, as well as the work of other organizations active in the field of international trade law. It also assessed current work programmes and considered topics for future work.

The Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization continued to consider, among other subjects, proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, with a view to strengthening the Organization, and the implementation of Charter provisions on assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII.

The Committee on Relations with the Host Country addressed a number of issues raised by permanent missions to the United Nations, including transportation and parking issues, acceleration of immigration and customs procedures, delays in issuing visas and travel regulations.

Part Four: Legal questions
Chapter IV (pp. 1388–1413)
Law of the Sea

UN CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, 1388: Institutions created by the Convention, 1400; Other developments related to the Convention, 1401; Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, 1413.

In 2007, the United Nations continued to promote universal acceptance of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and its two implementing Agreements on the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and on the privileges and immunities of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

The three institutions created by the Convention—the International Seabed Authority, the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf—held sessions during the year.

Part Five: Institutional, administrative and budgetary questions

Chapter I (pp. 1417–1434)

United Nations restructuring and institutional matters

RESTRUCTURING ISSUES, 1417: Programme of reform, 1417. INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS, 1420: Intergovernmental machinery, 1420. INSTITUTIONAL MACHINERY, 1422: General Assembly, 1422; Security Council, 1424; Economic and Social Council, 1425. COORDINATION, MONITORING AND COOPERATION, 1426; Institutional mechanisms, 1426; Other coordination matters, 1427. UN AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, 1429: Cooperation with organizations, 1429; Participation in UN work, 1430; Proclamation of international years, 1434.

In 2007, the Secretary-General continued to work with Member States and the UN system to further enhance system-wide coherence in areas of development, humanitarian support and the environment, especially at the country level. He submitted his views on recommendations contained in the 2006 report of the High-level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment, entitled “Delivering as one”. The Secretary-General said that the Panel’s recommendations provided further impetus to reform measures on United Nations business practices, agreeing fully with the Panel’s assessment of the need to consolidate and strengthen current structures, including by focusing on gender equality and the empowerment of women. In January, the “Delivering as one” pilot initiative, recommended by the Panel, was launched to test how the United Nations could provide more coordinated development assistance in eight countries. The Secretary-General asked the Deputy Secretary-General to manage and oversee the system-wide coherence agenda to ensure that the UN system’s initiatives to act on the Panel’s recommendations were guided by, respectful of and closely coordinated with intergovernmental consideration of the Panel’s report. However, no agreement was reached by the General Assembly’s informal consultations on the follow-up to the Secretary-General’s report on the High-level Panel’s recommendations. The Assembly President recommended that those consultations should continue.

The Assembly’s informal working group on mandate review formally re-launched its work since negotiations had stalled in October 2006. However, those negotiations were inconclusive. In December, the Assembly President submitted elements of mutually agreed parameters to continue the mandate review process. For its part, the Security Council’s Ad Hoc Committee on Mandate Review achieved its objectives and the Security Council agreed that its work could be concluded.

The Secretary-General submitted in December an updated report on the implementation of resolutions on the revitalization of the Assembly’s work.

The Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council considered ways to advance progress on Council reforms. The Assembly also adopted a number of decisions for strengthening the Economic and Social Council.

The Assembly continued to focus on administrative and institutional matters. It resumed its sixty-first session and opened its sixty-second session on 18 September. Two high-level plenary meetings were convened, including one on the commemoration of the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade (17 December). The Assembly also declared 2009 the International Year of Astronomy.

The Security Council held 202 formal meetings to deal with regional conflicts, peacekeeping operations and other issues related to the maintenance of international peace and security.

In addition to its organizational and substantive sessions, the Economic and Social Council in April held a special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions (the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund), the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Part Five: Institutional, administrative and budgetary questions

Chapter II (pp. 1435–1465)

United Nations financing and programming

FINANCIAL SITUATION, 1435. UN BUDGET, 1435: Budget for 2006–2007, 1435; Budget for 2008–2009, 1440. CONTRIBUTIONS, 1459: Assessments, 1459. ACCOUNTS AND AUDITING, 1461: Review of UN administrative and financial functioning, 1462. PROGRAMME PLANNING, 1463: Programme performance, 1465.

The overall United Nations financial position continued to be generally positive in 2007, although the situation remained fragile. Cash availability under the regular budget was higher than in 2006 and stood at \$283 million by year's end. However, aggregate assessments had risen by some \$299 million and unpaid assessments reached \$428 million, compared to \$361 million in 2006. Cash resources for peacekeeping amounted to over \$2.7 billion, while debt owed to Member States stood at \$779 million. The number of Member States paying their regular budget assessments in full and on time increased to 140.

In December, the General Assembly adopted final budget appropriations for the 2006–2007 biennium, decreasing the amount of \$4,302,005,000 approved in 2006 and in March and June 2007 to \$4,188,772,400 and increasing income estimates by \$12,930,700 to \$505,179,500. It also adopted revised budget appropriations for the 2008–2009 biennium of \$4,171,359,700, a decrease of \$23,367,100 from the preliminary estimate in 2006 of \$4,194,726,800.

The Committee on Contributions continued to review the methodology for preparing the scale of assessments of Member States' contributions to the budget and to encourage the payment of arrears through the multi-year payment plan process. The Assembly continued to review the efficiency of the UN administrative and financial functioning. The Secretary-General provided revised terms of reference for the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, which the Assembly approved in June.

Part Five: Institutional, administrative and budgetary questions

Chapter III (pp. 1466–1534)

Administrative and staff matters

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, 1467: Managerial reform and oversight, 1467. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, 1476: Conference management, 1476; UN information systems, 1483; UN premises and property, 1486; Security issues, 1492. STAFF MATTERS, 1496: Conditions of service, 1496; Staff safety and security, 1503; Other staff matters, 1507; UN Joint Staff Pension Fund, 1521; Travel-related matters, 1523; Administration of justice, 1523.

The United Nations endured a grave setback on 11 December 2007 when terrorist attacks near the Supreme Court and UN offices in Algiers, Algeria, claimed the lives of 31 persons, including 17 UN staff members, and injured an additional 177 people. The Security Council strongly condemned the attacks and called for the perpetrators to be brought to justice.

During 2007, the General Assembly continued to review the administrative functioning of the Organization and matters related to United Nations staff, including new reform proposals. In March, the Secretary-General set out revised funding arrangements for the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and the Assembly, noting that the resources needed to strengthen the Office were related to the strength of the internal controls of the Organization, requested the Secretary-General to establish an effective internal control framework, including a mechanism of enterprise risk management. In October, the Secretary-General presented proposals for the implementation and deployment in the Secretariat of a new generation of systems replacing the Integrated Management Information System, building an integrated global information system based on streamlined processes and best practices, and enabling the most effective management of resources.

The Committee on Conferences examined requests for changes to the approved calendar of conferences and meetings for 2007 and reviewed the draft biennial calendar for 2008–2009. The Assembly reaffirmed the practice that priority in the use of conference rooms should be given to the meetings of States and requested the Secretary-General to improve the planning of resource allocations. In its action on the capital master plan, the Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to enter into an additional swing space arrangement needed for a single-phase renovation of the Secretariat building, and approved his proposed changes in the schedule of the renovation of the Secretariat, Conference and General Assembly buildings. As to security issues, the Assembly reaffirmed the importance of a system-wide policy on the safety and security of UN staff and requested the Secretary-General to ensure a common interpretation of policies and encourage the development of practical methods to implement arrangements for sharing the costs for safety and security across the UN system. It also emphasized the need to pay special attention to the safety and security of UN and associated personnel engaged in peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations, as well as of locally recruited humanitarian personnel.

During the year, the Assembly, through the International Civil Service Commission, continued to review the conditions of service of staff of the UN common system and adopted the Commission's recommendations on the strengthening of the international civil service and on the conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories, including the base/floor salary scale and the evolution of the relationship between the net remuneration of staff in New York and of comparator civil service employees in Washington, D.C. The Assembly also took note of the Commission's decisions on language incentive.

The Secretary-General also reported on: the conditions of service and compensation of members of the International Court of Justice and judges and ad litem judges of the International Tribunals; liabilities and proposed funding for after-service health insurance benefits; safety and security of humanitarian and UN personnel; contractual arrangements; reappointment of mission staff; harmonization of conditions of service; civilian career peacekeepers; recruitment and staffing; activities of the Ethics Office; amendments to the Staff Rules; staff mobility; staff composition of the Secretariat; protection from sexual exploitation and abuse; standards of travel; the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund; the review of the administration of justice in the UN system; and criminal behaviour and disciplinary action.

The General Assembly approved changes to the after-service health insurance provisions for new staff members recruited on or after 1 July; emphasized the importance of the equality of the six UN official languages, reaffirming the need to achieve full parity among them on UN websites; adopted the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel; and called on UN system organizations and specialized agencies to engage in an active and coordinated manner in its implementation. The Assembly also decided to establish a new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice, consistent with the relevant rules of international law and the principles of the rule of law and due process to ensure respect for the rights and obligations of all staff members and the accountability of managers and staff members alike. It acknowledged the evolving nature of the new system and the need to monitor its implementation.