Why is the G8 focusing on Africa in 2005?
Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region of the world that has got poorer in the last generation. Its share of world trade halved between 1980 and 2002. It makes up 13% of the world’s population and 28% of world poverty. Sub-Saharan Africa bears the brunt of the world’s AIDS epidemic. To date 13 million men, women and children have died of AIDS, and 26 million are now living with the virus. Nigeria alone is home to 10% of the world’s total number of people living with HIV and AIDS. Maternal and child mortality rates have increased, and a woman has a one in 13 chance of dying during pregnancy or childbirth. These challenges represent a compelling call for international cooperation to support the continent's efforts to achieve lasting progress.

In 2000, the international community set itself eight goals to achieve by 2015. The UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) include targets on eradicating extreme poverty, combating HIV and AIDS and malaria, and ensuring that every child receives primary education. The UN Millennium Review Summit in 2005 will consider progress towards the MDGs. We already know that we need to do much more if we are to meet the MDGs in Sub-Saharan Africa. This is one of the reasons why UK Prime Minister Tony Blair has said that Africa will be a priority of the G8 Summit in Gleneagles. It is also one of the reasons why the Prime Minister set up the Commission for Africa.

What is the G8 Africa Action Plan?
African leaders have been invited to previous G8 Summits in Genoa, Kananaskis, Evian and Sea Island. At the Kananaskis Summit in 2002 the G8 agreed an Africa Action Plan (AAP). The G8 Africa Action Plan contains commitments on promoting peace and security; strengthening institutions and governance; fostering trade, economic growth and sustainable development; implementing debt relief; expanding knowledge; improving health and confronting HIV/AIDS; increasing agricultural productivity; and improving water resource management.


What is NEPAD?
The New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD). NEPAD was initially developed and articulated by a small group of African leaders and then endorsed by the African Union in July 2001. NEPAD is African owned and led, and represents a long-term...
agenda for Africa. Over time it seeks to change the terms of engagement between Africa and the international community. Its work aims to:

- eradicate poverty;
- place African countries, both individually and collectively, on a path of sustainable growth and development;
- halt the marginalisation of Africa in the globalisation process and enhance its full and beneficial integration into the global economy;
- accelerate the empowerment of women.

One of the main programmes of NEPAD is the African Peer Review Mechanism, which aims to improve economic, political and corporate governance and socio-economic development across Africa through peer review.

The NEPAD framework is founded on mutual accountability, based on the idea that if Africa is going to achieve the goals set out in NEPAD, both African governments and the international community must meet the commitments that they have made. This includes African Governments’ commitments through NEPAD to improve their performance on economic and political governance, the G8’s commitments in the Africa Action Plan and international commitments to meet the Millennium Development Goals.

What has the G8 done so far for Africa?
Since Kananaskis the G8 have made progress on commitments in the Africa Action Plan, and also agreed new commitments at Evian in 2003 and Sea Island in 2004. For example at Sea Island the G8 reaffirmed their commitment to fully implementing and financing the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative. The G8 have already agreed $70bn of debt relief for 27 countries, 23 of which are in Africa reducing their debts by around two-thirds on average, and freeing up resources for spending on poverty reduction. G8 Leaders recently agreed to extend the HIPC Initiative by two years, potentially allowing a further 10 eligible HIPC countries to benefit from HIPC debt relief in excess of US $30bn. They also agreed to consider measures that can further help the poorest countries address the sustainability of their debt.

The G8 have actively supported African efforts to achieve and consolidate peace and security throughout Africa but particularly in Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Burundi, Central African Republic and Côte d’Ivoire. The G8 are committed to working alongside Africa to develop African capacity for promoting peace and security. Substantial support has been contributed by G8 partners towards, for example, institutional capacity-building for peace and security and developing an effective network in Africa of peace training centres for military and civilian personnel involved in peace support operations.

A key component of the G8’s commitment to African peace and security is the Joint Africa / G8 plan to enhance African capabilities to undertake peace support operations, which was agreed at the Evian G8 Summit in June. The comprehensive plan was formulated jointly with Africa and outlines the building blocks necessary to enhance African capabilities. The plan will be further developed as the new African institutional architecture for peace and security evolves.

CLIMATE CHANGE

“The President’s opposition to ratifying the Kyoto Protocol, coupled with his reversal on the regulation of carbon dioxide, was an early expression of the go it alone attitude that so offended our allies in the lead up to the Iraqi war. The roots of our difficulties in forging a strong multinational alliance to fight terrorism go all the way back to how we handled Kyoto as well as other international issues”

Our climate is changing. Over the past century average global temperatures have risen by 0.6°Celsius – the 10 warmest years on record have all been since 1990. There is now scientific consensus that this warming has been brought about by the increase in greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, which in turn has been caused by human activities – primarily the burning of fossil fuels and changes in land use.

The devastating floods, droughts and storms we have seen across the world in recent years show all too clearly how vulnerable we are to climate extremes and how high the economic, human and environmental costs can be, particularly in developing countries. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, global temperatures are predicted to rise by between 1.4 and 5.8°C over the next century.

The UK Prime Minister sees climate change as “probably, long-term the single most important issue we face as a global community”. For this reason climate change will be a priority during the UK’s G8 Presidency this year, along with Africa. The developed world’s economic prosperity has been built on the
use of fossil fuels. Coal, oil and gas have powered our industrial and commercial development; provided light and heat for our homes and places of work; and fuelled the transport system, which supports our economy and gives us the mobility we so highly value. We urgently need to find ways to deliver these services without causing dangerous environmental changes. The G8 accounts for over 65% of global GDP and 47% of global CO2 emissions. They also play a major role in technological development and scientific effort globally, reflected in their responsibility for 70% of the world’s scientific papers and 75% of science citations. Against this background, action on climate change by the G8 can have a real impact.

The UK has set out three broad aims for climate change in the G8 in 2005:

- Building a solid foundation on the science. We need to further explore the relationships between greenhouse gas emissions and the associated level of climate change
- Reaching agreement on how to speed up the science, development of technology and other measures necessary to meet the threat
- Engage countries outside the G8 who have growing energy needs, such as China and India, both on how these needs can be met sustainably and how they can adapt to the impacts which are unavoidable.

At the 19-20 April 2004 meeting of G8 Science and Technology experts held in Washington DC, the United Kingdom agreed that in its Presidency it would convene a meeting of G8 Energy Research Institutions in order to improve networking and to enhance collaboration between different research communities. The UK’s new Energy Research Centre will host this from 11-12 May in Oxford.

We have also commissioned a study to look at Africa and climate change. This will review what information is available on climate change in Africa, and evaluate the adequacy of existing data to inform policy decisions. The study can add considerable value by identifying these knowledge gaps and what needs to be done to plug them. We have begun with Africa as it is the least well-covered region, but similar work in other regions may also be necessary.

The world’s richest nations agreed to implement measures to tackle climate change in Africa and illegal logging. Margaret Beckett, UK Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Hilary Benn, UK Secretary of State for International Development agreed actions where G8 members could make a real difference to tackle illegal logging and addressed the impact of climate change on Africa’s development. This came out of the first-ever meeting of G8 Environment and Development Ministers, held in Derbyshire under the UK Government’s Presidency of the Group of Eight Countries.

On the impact of climate change on Africa, Ministers:

- noted that African countries are particularly vulnerable to climate variability and climate change and, like many developing countries, are already experiencing more dangerous climate effects
- discussed the urgent need to assist Africa to reduce vulnerability by building resilience to climate variability and by developing capacity to adapt to climate change
- committed to supporting the need for an effective international response to build scientific capacity and integrate measures to address the impact of climate change in international development assistance and national development plans.

Margaret Beckett said:

'It is disturbing that scientists tell us that climate change will mean Africa can expect more frequent droughts and more serious floods. This will severely affect farming, health and infrastructure, undermining efforts to tackle Africa’s poverty. Our discussions today represent a significant step forward in tackling the growing problem of climate change and will help to save lives. I am particularly encouraged by the growing engagement of development and finance Ministers in recognising the impact of climate change, this greatest of global threats.'

In reaching their conclusions, Ministers discussed a specially commissioned report, ‘Climate proofing Africa’ which outlined what little is known about the impact of climate change on development and poverty in Africa, the weaknesses of the African network for observing the climate; the lack of scientific and technical capacity; and what more needs to be done to help "climate proof" Africa's development.

Mrs Beckett added:

'Today the UK announced that we are committing a further £100K towards regional predictions of climate change for Africa and £400K over the next three years towards a new multi-country initiative on advancing knowledge, capacity

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**G8 ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS MEETING**

G8 ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS AGREE ACTION ON ILLEGAL LOGGING AND PUT CLIMATE CHANGE IN AFRICA ON AGENDA FOR G8 HEADS. Derby, March 18, 2005

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Photo from http://www.unep.org
and networks in support of climate change in Africa. The priority for Africa must be to reduce its vulnerability to existing extremes of climate and to prepare it for longer-term effects in future. This means helping Africa to build its climate monitoring capacity and improving the way we manage climate risks in development.’

On illegal logging, Ministers agreed to tackle both the supply of and demand for illegal timber by:

- taking steps to halt the import and marketing of illegally logged timber, for example through border control and voluntary bilateral agreements;
- doing more to support developing countries’ own efforts to enforce forest law and improve governance;
- using government procurement to ensure that governments do not contribute to the problem of illegal logging; and
- reviewing progress on these commitments next year.

Hilary Benn said:
‘This is a very important agreement. Illegal logging is a problem shared by those producing and exporting timber and timber products and those that import them. Tackling illegal logging will enable the poorest countries to manage their forests better, reduce poverty and protect natural resources. It does not make sense to give development assistance on the one hand while importing cheap illegal timber on the other. The UK is also delighted today with the support shown by our G8 partners to practical action, so that we can try to improve people’s livelihoods and stop further damage to the environment.’

Ministers discussed how G8 members could support timber producing and exporting countries to implement domestic reforms. They also discussed how G8 countries must ensure that, as major importers of timber, their own policies supported good practice.

Ministers agreed to look at what action they could take to prevent illegally logged timber from entering their markets including preventing the import of illegally logged timber through voluntary partnership agreements with timber producing countries.

Ministers also looked at what governments could do as consumers of timber and timber products, particularly implementing or extending public procurement policies that discriminate against illegally logged timber.

Hilary Benn added:
‘Attacking poverty and managing the environment are key goals of the UK international development programme. Forests play an important role in meeting those goals - but illegal logging directly undermines them. The UK central government has already set an example by seeking to buy timber only from legal sources - and today DEFRA is announcing over half a million pounds over three years, to extend guidance on legal timber procurement to the wider public sector, and to share our knowledge on procurement with the G8 and other countries. We are also going to support producer countries, particularly those in west and central Africa. Today DEFRA is also granting £1 million for forestry biodiversity projects under the Darwin Initiative. We will continue to support the innovative EU scheme that will deny access to EU markets for illegally harvested timber.

Ministers also welcomed the recently published Commission for Africa Report, and discussed proposals to reform the humanitarian aid process and the importance of biodiversity in sustainable livelihoods.'
WASHINGTON, March 31th - Paul D. Wolfowitz was unanimously elected as the new president of the World Bank in a vote by the institution’s executive board.

President Bush nominated Mr. Wolfowitz two weeks ago for the post, which has now always been held by an American. The outcome had already largely been decided in the capitals of the bank’s major shareholder governments when the 24-member board met in a vote that was conducted by consensuses. Wolfowitz will have a few months of transition before he takes the reins of the bank on June 1st, when James Wolfensohn steps down after 10 years at the helm of an organization that spends billions of dollars a year in projects aimed at reducing poverty in the world’s least developed countries.

"It is humbling to be entrusted with the leadership of this critically important international institution," Mr. Wolfowitz, 61, said Thursday.

World Views

“We need someone with professional experience in helping people to escape from poverty. Mr Wolfowitz does not have that track record”

Jeffrey Sachs, Columbia University

“It is a disaster to put the World Bank, which should be delivering sustainable development, into the hands of a man who clearly will put US and oil-industry interests first”

Greenpeace

Atila Roque, executive director of ActionAid International’s U.S. branch, says the nominations "The Bush administration’s decision to send the State Department's John Bolton to the United Nations and the Defense Department's Paul Wolfowitz to the World Bank form a dream team for those who wish to shape U.N. and World Bank policy at the expense of the poor."

Roque says the nominations "ignore international trends and debates both on the governmental and civic levels towards the reclaiming of the post-war ideals of a world of peace and social justice based on international cooperation and solidarity."  

Atila Roque, executive director of ActionAid International's U.S. branch

"Wolfowitz’ record demonstrates that he has almost no understanding of poverty reduction and environmental protection," said Longgena Ginting, co-coordinator of the Friends of the Earth International campaign on International Financial Institutions.

“As U.S. ambassador to Indonesia, he also ignored many gross human rights violations practiced by the Suharto administration, like those in East Timor, Aceh and Papua. Wolfowitz was very close to Suharto, coddled corruption and made life as easy as possible for U.S. corporations, including some with terrible social and environmental

Longgena Ginting, co-coordinator of the Friends of the Earth International campaign on International Financial

“I have known Paul Wolfowitz personally and professionally for a long time. He is a person of high intellect, integrity and broad experience”

James Wolfensohn, outgoing World Bank chief

“It is important to wait for the end of the appointment process and, of course, we will be involved in discussions and consultations with the US and others. It is important for us that the World Bank takes forward the challenging agenda we are setting for Africa”

Downing Street spokesman

“This is a nomination by the US Government. Paul Wolfowitz is very distinguished and experienced internationally and, if his appointment is confirmed, we look forward to working with him”

Jack Straw, Foreign Secretary

“The enthusiasm in old Europe is not exactly overwhelming”

Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, German Development Minister.

Born 1943 in New York.
1989-93: Deputy Secretary for Defence in President Bush Sr’s Administration. Wanted to depose Saddam Hussein after first Gulf War.
March 2001- : Deputy Secretary of Defence. Champion of missile defence. Leading proponent of Iraq war
MDG

MILLENIUM +5 TIMELINE: UN AND NGOs EVENTS

13th Session Commission on Sustainable Development (11-12 April)
5th Session Forum on Forests (UNFF5) (16-17 May)
6th Permanent Session on Indigenous Issues (16-27 May)
GA Special Session (HIV/AIDS) (June)
GCAP International Day for Action (6th Summit) (Scotland 1 July)
DP/LNGO Conference (7-9 September)
High Level Plenary Meeting of the 65th Session (M+5 Event) (14-16 Sept)
High Level Plenary Meeting of the 66th Session (M+5 Event) (14-16 Sept)

APRIL
MAY
JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
SEPTEMBER

ECOSOC Special Highlevel Meeting with Bwis, WITU & UNTAD (18 April)
MDG NGOs Network Consultation (Sustainable Development) (TBC-April)
Global Democracy 2000 (29 May - 1st June)
GA Hearings Civil Society & Private Sector (TBC - June)
High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development (27-29 June)
ECOSOC High Level Segment (29June-1 July)
Global Partnership Conference on Conflict Prevention (15-21 July)
DP/LNGO Conference (7-9 September)

Every event will be taking place in New York, with exception to the International Day for Action (Scotland)
COLOR DESIGN: UN events are painted in blue and NGOs events in green

Bienvenue au Gala d’inauguration de la Fondation Antinea

Le bateau est prêt à longer les amonules pour vous emmener dans un voyage extraordinaire. Un voyage qui parcourt un monde magnifique mais fragile et menacé à la fois.

Nos escales vous permettront de découvrir ce que la Fondation Antinea entreprend pour que les générations futures puissent aussi admirer le havre de paix que vous avez connu.

Welcome to the launch Gala of the Antinea Foundation.

The sailing boat is ready to start for a journey which will lead you to discover an extraordinary world.

A journey which will traverse magnificent but vulnerable and threatened areas at the same time. Our stopovers will enable you to discover what the Antinea Foundation will undertake so that the future generations can be also filled with wonder in front of this single spectacle.

Programme du Gala / Launch Gala’s program

Piano concert Stefanie Murr
Multimedia short film “Ocean Experience”
Welcome speech from Biotas Medall, President of the Antinea Foundation
Alberto Bore, environmental advisor of the Antinea Foundation (The place of Antinea in the current existing environmental projects)
Andrew Harutyunyan (KLA Global Marine Program) (Photos of the project)
Barbora Dvorak, skipper of Antinea (Presentation of the boat)
Sponsorship of WWF Global 200 Antinea (Presentation WWF Global 200: Antinea circumnavigation route)
Preparation of NGO Project: Antinea collaboration with Antinea Foundation (Official inauguration of the foundation)
Screening of “Critter” from John Boyle

Scientific research
John Sumner (Presentation of Underside Explorer partnership and examples of research projects on UW)
Ken Axler (Presentation SOS Turquoise)
Marc Clement (Antinea’s oceanic diving teams)

Communication and education
Steve Christopher (Presentation of Antinea movie production team)
Elaine Collins (International exhibition @ the multimedia show)

Sharing the experience
Laure Merrow (Extravaganza project in Sri Lanka)
Concert “The Bicycled”

The Antinea Foundation’s mission is to contribute to the conservation of the oceans by: Participating in scientific projects - the collection of scientific data being indispensable to assess threats and take pragmatic conservation measures. Communicating the scientific facts to the public at large, and by giving this public an opportunity to actively participate in the experience.

OUTREACH 2005 • MONDAY 11
The Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for CSD-13 took place in New York between 28 February and the 4 March. The Chair’s text that emerged from that meeting offers a wide variety of policy options and possible actions for consideration at CSD-13, but from stakeholders’ perspectives there are a number of points that are still not adequately addressed.

Stakeholder Forum has facilitated several Round Tables with UK stakeholders over the last six months to explore these issues. This paper represents a distillation of the views that have emerged through these meetings on some of the key points.

The Chair’s present text well describes the current state of the debate on water, sanitation and human settlement issues. But it fails to:
- convey an adequate sense of the scale of the problems facing many countries on these issues in the years ahead or of the urgency of the action needed to deal with them;
- capture the experience and lessons learned during the review year both as to problems and solutions;
- identify clear priorities or set out a practical programme and commitments for action;
- identify the financial and other resources that will be needed to meet the targets;
- deal adequately with all the crosscutting issues highlighted in CSD 11.

Although the CSD is not an executive body it does provide a forum at which national governments and other interested bodies can together agree on the nature and scale of the problems and the priorities for action, and can together make mutual commitments as to the actions they will each undertake. Building on the user-friendly matrix produce at the IPM the CSD 13 process should focus on prioritisation of policy outcomes coupled with country-specific Tables of Commitments listing the activities which countries and/or their partners will undertake, resources that countries and the donor community will commit, timeframes for those commitments to be fulfilled, and, expected results in terms of the policy outcomes which are being sought on water, sanitation & human settlements.

Individual stakeholder groups have many specific points to press. But all are agreed on the following key priorities that ought to be prominent in the CSD conclusions:
- Sustainable human settlements must take full account of the needs of all users and of the environment and ecosystems.
- National and local water and sanitation strategies should be based firmly on the concept of integrated water resource management.
- In this context greater emphasis should be placed on valuing, protecting and managing natural ecosystems as part of sustainable and cost-effective solutions, with economic incentives and resources put in place to help achieve this.
- Water demand management needs to be strength-
### MONDAY’S AND TUESDAY’S DIARY

#### Monday 11 April 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<td><strong>9:00 am</strong></td>
<td>Opening</td>
<td>Human Settlements</td>
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<td>* Election of Officials</td>
<td>* Interactive discussions led-off by a panel of UN agencies and NGOs.</td>
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<td>* Chair’s Opening statement</td>
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<td>Regional Perspectives on Water, Sanitation, Human Settlements</td>
<td>Sanitation: Interactive discussions led-off by a panel of UN agencies and NGOs.</td>
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<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>* Africa</td>
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<td>* Asia &amp; Pacific</td>
<td>Topic: Access to basic sanitation and hygiene</td>
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<td>* Latin America &amp; Caribbean</td>
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<td>Summary and Questions</td>
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World Resources Institute Jonathan Leah; WWF International Gordon Shepherd.