



G8 International Parliamentarians' Conference on Population and Sustainable Development



Global Health, Climate Change
and Food Security

2-3 July 2008
Tokyo, Japan

Meeting Minutes

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Tokyo, Japan



Organized by
Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

Hosted by
Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)

Supported by
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA)
Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population & Development (AFPPD)

Cooperating Agencies
European Parliamentary Forum on Population & Development (EPF)
Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population & Development (IAPG)
Forum of African & Arab Parliamentarians on Population & Development (FAAPPD)
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)
German Foundation for World Population (DSW)
Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)
World Bank/Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB)

Table of Contents

Programme	5
Corporate Supporters	8
OPENING CEREMONY	9
Hon. Yasuo Fukuda	11
Mr. Koji Tsuruoka	13
Ms. Safiye Çağar	15
KEYNOTE ADDRESS	18
INTRODUCTION	
<i>G8 from Germany to Japan and toward Italy</i>	25
<i>Results from 2007 G8 Summit Germany</i>	27
<i>Hopes for 2009 G8 Summit Italy</i>	31
<i>Discussion</i>	32
SESSION 1	
<i>Interrelationship between Population and Climate Change</i>	41
<i>The Human Impact on Climate Change – Population Growth,</i>	
<i>Economic Activity & Countermeasures</i>	43
<i>Reproductive Health and Climate Change: A Case Study</i>	49
<i>Comments from G8</i>	53
<i>Discussion</i>	54
SESSION 2	
<i>Achieving the Health MDGs through Sustainable Development</i>	61
<i>Health is the Premise for Global Development: The Case of Malaria</i>	63
<i>Universal Right to Health as a Critical Step to Advancing the MDGs: A Prescription for</i>	
<i>Action</i>	67
<i>Comments from G8</i>	72
<i>Discussion</i>	74
SESSION 3	
<i>Population, Food Security and Poverty Alleviation</i>	81
<i>Climate Change and Agricultural Development</i>	83
<i>Climate Change, Globalized Economy and Food Security</i>	87
<i>Global Monitoring Report: MDGs and the Environment – Agenda for Inclusive and Sustainable</i>	
<i>Development</i>	90
<i>Comments from G8 (1)</i>	95
<i>Comments from G8 (2)</i>	96
<i>Discussion</i>	96
SESSION 4	
<i>Panel Discussion on Concrete Actions for Achieving MDGs</i>	103
Hon. Dr. Shuichi Kato	105
Hon. Dr. Sascha Raabe	109
Hon. Ibrahim Sorie	112
Mr. Jose G. Rimon II	115
<i>Discussion</i>	117
SESSION 5	
<i>Discussion and Adoption of the Statement</i>	123
CLOSING CEREMONY	127
Hon. Wakako Hironaka	129
Ms. Kayoko Shimizu	130
PRESS CONFERENCE	131
Participants' List	135

Programme

Tuesday 1 July 2008	
19:00-20:30	Welcome Reception <i>Sapphire Hall, 2F Guest House, Grand Prince Hotel Akasaka</i>
DAY 1: Wednesday 2 July 2008 <i>Green Hall, 1F Banquet Building, Grand Prince Hotel Akasaka</i>	
08:30-09:00	Registration <i>Green Hall, 1F Banquet Building, Grand Prince Hotel Akasaka</i>
OPENING CEREMONY	
09:00-09:30	Opening Address Hon. Yasuo Fukuda Prime Minister of Japan, Chairperson of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)/Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population & Development (AFPPD) Address Mr. Koji Tsuruoka Ambassador, Director-General for Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan Ms. Safiye Çağar Director of Director, Information and External Relations Division (IERD), United National Population Fund (UNFPA)
09:30-09:45	Group Photo
09:45-10:15	Keynote Speech Hon. Dr. Taro Nakayama MP Principal Adviser of JPFP/Adviser of APDA (Japan)
10:15-10:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
INTRODUCTION: G8 from Germany to Japan and toward Italy	
10:45-11:45	<i>Results from 2007 G8 Summit Germany</i> Hon. Sibylle Pfeiffer MP, Chair of Parliamentary Advisory Committee of the German Foundation for World Population (DSW) <i>Hopes for 2009 G8 Summit Italy</i> Hon. Anne Van Lancker MEP, President of European Parliamentary Forum on Population & Development (EPF) Discussion Chair: Hon. Wakako Hironaka MP, Acting-Chairperson of JPFP (Japan)
11:45-13:00	Lunch Reception Hosted by APDA, <i>Green Hall, 1F Banquet Building</i>
SESSION 1: Interrelationship between Population and Climate Change	
13:00-15:00	<i>The Human Impact on Climate Change – Population Growth, Economic Activity & Countermeasures</i> Dr. Gerald Stokes President & CEO of Battelle Japan <i>Reproductive Health and Climate Change: A Case Study</i> Dr. Gill Greer Director-General International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) <i>Comments from G8</i> Hon. Françoise Castex MEP (France) Discussion Chair: Hon. Chieko Nohno MP, Secretary-General of JPFP (Japan)
15:00-15:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>

SESSION 2: Achieving the Health MDGs through Sustainable Populations	
15:15-17:00	<p><i>Health is the Premise for Global Development. The Case of Malaria</i> Dr. Awa Marie Coll-Seck Executive Director of Roll Back Malaria Partnership</p> <p><i>Universal Right to Health as a Critical Step to Advancing the MDGs: A Prescription for Action</i> Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP (Canada)</p> <p><i>Comments from G8</i> Hon. Danielle Bousquet MP (France)</p> <p>Discussion Chair: Hon. Khira Lagha Ben Fadhel MP President of Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development (FAAPPD) (Tunisia)</p>
18:30-20:00	Dinner Reception Hosted by JFPF, <i>Green Hall</i> , 1F Banquet Building
20:00-21:30	Drafting Committee Meeting (<i>Green Hall</i> , 1F Banquet Building) Chair: Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP (Canada)

DAY 2: Thursday 3 July 2008 <i>Green Hall, 1F Banquet Building, Grand Prince Hotel Akasaka</i>	
SESSION 3: Population, Food Security and Poverty Alleviation	
09:00-10:00	<p><i>Climate Change and Agricultural Development</i> Ms. Farhana Haque Rahman Chief of Media Relations, Special Events and Programmes of International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)</p> <p><i>Climate Change, Globalized Economy and Food Security</i> Dr. Yonosuke Hara Professor of National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)</p>
10:00-10:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:15-11:45	<p><i>Global Monitoring Report: MDGs and the Environment – Agenda for Inclusive and Sustainable Development</i> Mr. Mohammad Zia Qureshi Senior Adviser of World Bank</p> <p><i>Comments from G8</i> Hon. Dennis Kucinich (U.S.) Read by Ms. Amy Coen CEO of Population Action International (PAI)</p> <p>Discussion Chair: Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo MP (Bolivia)</p>
11:45-13:00	Lunch Reception Hosted by JFPF, <i>Green Hall</i>, 1F Banquet Building
SESSION 4: Panel Discussion on Concrete Actions for Achieving MDGs	
13:00-15:00	<p>Panelists:</p> <p>Hon. Dr. Sascha Raabe MP (Germany)</p> <p>Hon. Ibrahim Sorie MP (Sierra Leone)</p> <p>Hon. Shuichi Kato MP, Director of JFPF (Japan)</p> <p>Mr. Jose G. Rimón II Senior Program Officer of Global Health Policy & Advocacy, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation</p> <p>Discussion Chair: Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa MP (Zambia)</p>
15:00-15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>

SESSION 5: Discussion and Adoption of G8 Parliamentarians' Statement	
15:30-16:45	<i>Discussion on Draft G8 Parliamentarians' Statement</i> <i>Adoption of G8 Parliamentarians' Statement</i> Chair: Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP (Canada)
16:45-17:00	Conference Evaluation
CLOSING CEREMONY	
17:00-17:30	Address Hon. Wakako Hironaka MP, Acting Chairperson of JPPF Ms. Kayoko Shimizu Acting Chairperson of APDA
17:30-18:00	Press Conference <i>Green Hall</i> , 1F Banquet Building
18:30-20:00	Dinner Reception Hosted by APDA, <i>Green Hall</i> , 1F Banquet Building

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACPD..... Action Canada for Population and Development	IPCI/ICPD... International Parliamentarians' Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action
AFPPD..... Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development	IPPF..... International Planned Parenthood Federation
APDA..... Asian Population and Development Association	JBIC..... Japan Bank for International Cooperation
BMGF..... Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	JFPA..... Japan Family Planning Association
CSI..... Corporate Social Investment	JPPF..... Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population
CSR..... Corporate Social Responsibility	JOICFP..... Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning
DSW..... Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (German Foundation for World Population)	LDC..... Least Developed Countries
EPF..... European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development	MDGs..... The Millennium Development Goals
FAAPPD..... Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on Population and Development	MD..... The Millennium Declaration
FP..... Family Planning	MOFA..... Ministry of Foreign Affairs
GCPPD..... Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development	ODA..... Official Development Assistance
GRIPS..... National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies	OECD..... Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
IAPG..... Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development	PAI..... Population Action International
IAPPD..... Indian Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development	PGA..... Parliamentarians for Global Action
IERD..... UNFPA Information Executive Board and Resource Mobilization Division	PNoWB..... Parliamentary Network on the World Bank
IFAD..... International Fund for Agricultural Development	R&D..... Research & Development
IGES..... Institute for Global Environmental Strategies	RBM..... Roll Back Malaria Partnership
ICPD..... International Conference on Population & Development (Cairo Conference)	RH..... Reproductive Health
ICPPD..... International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population & Development	SRH..... Sexual/Reproductive Health
	TICAD..... Tokyo International Conference on African Development
	UNFPA..... United Nations Population Fund
	VAPPD..... Vietnamese Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
	WB..... The World Bank
	WHO..... World Health Organization

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OPENING CEREMONY

Opening Address

Hon. Yasuo Fukuda

Prime Minister of Japan

Chairperson of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) &
Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)

I thank you most sincerely for joining us at the G8 International Parliamentarians' Conference. Only a few days after this conference, the Toyako Hokkaido G8 Summit will be held. As you know, the summit will address climate change, African development, world economy and food issues. I would like to share with you some background issues on these challenges and the basic stance for considering future policy measures that should be taken.

Since the Industrial Revolution, we have enjoyed the fruits of the growth that have been brought about by technological innovation and development of the global market. Such development has made our life more convenient and has facilitated instant sharing of information. On the other hand, the contrast between the light and dark sides of the so-called "globalization" becomes very evident. While there are incredibly rich individuals, there are millions, who do not have the basic health services or access to clean drinking water and this is the reality. I believe we should consider two things:

One – that we should learn the skills of how to control the enormous energy that we have liberated through our knowledge and technology. We do not simply reinvest the enormous wealth created just for short-term interests, but also put them to use for the future of humankind. The other is that we should clearly accept the simple truth that the earth's resources are finite. The earth is sending a warning sign under unlimited human activities that seem to know of no end. Global warming must be accepted as the signal that the earth's capacity for supporting human activity is waning.

In May, at the Tokyo forum of *The Future of Asia*, I suggested that the Pacific Ocean should be regarded as a classic body of water, like our inland sea. It should be shared and protected by all nations around in the Pacific to develop a

network for the future.

I also emphasized the need for compatibility for growth and measures taken for environmental protection and climate change. If we are careless about considering the earth's capacity for supporting human activity there can be no future, not just for Asia, but for the world and humankind. What must we do? Those are the issues the G8 will be addressing, as well as in other fora such as the United Nations. We should bring our wisdom and start thinking immediately about what can be done.

Today, no one has the perfect answer, but I believe there are three key words: Having a long-term vision, equity and participation by all. First, all of us around the world, should share the big challenge before us and have a long term vision for what direction we should be heading in. In this part, the issue of population is essential. Without a long-term vision, things will not move, as they are trapped by national and individuals' special interests.

Next is equity. Whatever grand objectives we may share, it is essential that there is a certain level of equity for whatever action that needs to be taken. Countries that have achieved development must not demand countries in the process of development not to develop further, or suggest anything to that effect. It is true that developed countries have a large responsibility for the deterioration of global environment, the possibility of the depletion of resources and the declining capacity of the earth. Developed countries must sufficiently realize this and must encourage the developing countries to grow while protecting the environment. When we are committed to this, we can start discussing our responsibilities that can be acceptable to all, including the developing countries.

The last point is participation by all. The

challenges we are facing cannot be resolved by a single nation, not even a superpower, nor can they be resolved by G8 countries alone. They can be addressed only when all countries, all people, all business corporations and NGOs participate. The successful transformation to a lower carbon society requires all of us to change our attitudes, our consciousness and our lifestyles. I believe that this is where, as elected representatives of the people, you have a big role to play, to get all people to participate. We should listen to what our people have to say and then ask people to understand what policies

must be taken and why. In this, your cooperation is essential.

I am confident that you will have a truly fruitful discussion and that the outcomes will be communicated to your governments and to your people so that all of us around the world will address the issues as global citizens. I pray for the success of your conference and for your health and happiness.

Thank you so much.

Address

Mr. Koji Tsuruoka

Ambassador, Director-General for Global Issues
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA)

I thank you very much for coming together from around the world to discuss important global issues. Prime Minister Fukuda has already talked about this, so let me be very brief. In fact, for the Prime Minister to participate in a private meeting like this does not usually happen, because we want to avoid the Prime Minister having special interest in a particular organization or a particular meeting and that is the thinking of the administration. But, Prime Minister Fukuda, in his political career, has been devoted and committed to population issues and so we, at the government, the Ministry Foreign Affairs who is in charge of the foreign relations, were asked by the Prime Minister what the Minister of Foreign Affairs would say about his participating and making a speech at this conference.

So I have to say that the most important is his conviction and what he feels he should do. And of course, population issues are not just one single issue. It is at the basis, and it is the most critical issue that relates to all global issues. And so we asked the Prime Minister to participate, as we thought that the meeting was of appropriate importance. I am pleased and it is very significant for the Prime Minister to stand before you and to make that statement, and I hope that as he serves as the chair of the G8 summit in Toyako this will give him the push so I hope you will continue to be interested and give cooperation.

We have here representatives from G8 countries, Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America, members of the legislature, UNFPA, IPPF, and international NGOs and I feel much honoured to be able to say a few words. Next week, we'll be having the G8 summit at Toyako, and just immediately before this, it is very significant for the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPPF) together with APDA, to host this conference. We are very proud that this conference has been organized through UNFPA

Japan Trust Fund for Inter-country and NGOs Activities.

As the Prime Minister said, at this conference we will be addressing many of the MDGs related global issues like climate change, infectious diseases, water, and food security. They are all related to population issues. It is focusing on human security, which the Japanese government feels very important, and population issues are part and parcel of the complicated global issues, so we believe initiatives in this area are essential.

There are 6.7 billion people living on earth today. By 2050 we are told that it will grow to 9.2 billion and most will be living in developing countries. This accelerated concentration of population in the urban areas and lack of infrastructure will lower levels of sanitation. Since we do not really have natural borders, infectious diseases can become a global pandemic in an instant. Rapid urbanization and population increase could contribute to water shortage, food shortage, energy shortage, diminishing of arable land, and destruction of environment, and pollution of water through economic activities. This would increase the number of victims, especially in developing countries, who will suffer from large natural disasters. This can be a vicious circle.

Agricultural production could decline against that background as the population continues to increase. In order to address the MDGs, we cannot close our eyes to the rising population in developing countries. The resolution of population issues will improve, but not diminish.

Ladies and gentlemen, we would like to take this opportunity to inform you of how Japan has been addressing the population and reproductive health issues. May 28th to 30th, 2008 in Yokohama we were able to organize the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) IV and we focused on

acceleration of growth, establishing human security, and also addressing environmental and climate change issues. There were active interactions, under the message of *Towards a Vibrant Africa*, in order to consider the directions of African development.

Our Prime Minister Fukuda at this conference mentioned that population issues and reproductive health issues are the key in considering the development issues in order to achieve MDGs. Maternal health and reproductive health must be improved, and he manifested such commitment. Within the Yokohama Action Plan, he mentioned that perinatal care is to be improved, reproductive health services to be universally accessible, deliveries assisted by skilled birth attendants to be increased and maternal mortality rate and health to be improved.

Globally infectious diseases are getting more attention, but at TICAD IV we were able to focus on maternal and child health. Our First Lady hosted a luncheon meeting for the wives of the African nations' leaders and representatives of international organizations and she mentioned the maternal and child health handbook by showing the actual maternal and child health handbook that presented to the First Ladies of African nations. She emphasized the usefulness and importance of such measures to improve maternal and child health.

The Japanese government at the G8 Summit meeting in Hokkaido will take up the global health issue as an important agenda point. It was in November last year our Foreign Minister Kouchi addressed a policy speech titled "Global Health and Japan's Foreign Policy – From Okinawa to Toyako". In his speech, he proposed an international action plan regarding global health. At the Davos conference in January, the Prime Minister conducted a special address. He mentioned that during the G8 Summit, he would focus on global health, water, and education, as these are key to human security.

Up until now, under the auspices and instructions of the Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister, the Japanese government has hosted – three times – a G8 health experts meeting, which was unprecedented in the past. These health experts' meetings were discussions held by the Health 8 members, NGOs and international society members who are also here today. As our Prime Minister mentioned earlier, this was an all-inclusive scheme as we put together these discussions. Now we are in the final phases of summarizing the international global health action principles. They include measures for health system, maternal and child health, and infectious diseases. Especially in the maternal and child health, we are trying to appeal the importance of perinatal care and skilled birth attendants. In order to give respect to billions of new lives that are coming, we should reduce undesired pregnancies and we have to provide a form of society in which newborns will be celebrated and will be able to lead a healthy life. For this, we need to stabilize the world population, and international society must be united in order to achieve such objectives.

Now that the G8 Summit meeting is immediate, it is such a significant opportunity that international agencies and international NGOs and all the parliamentarians including the G8 nations, come to Japan and discuss the importance of population issues. As the Prime Minister mentioned earlier, all-inclusive cooperation is an essential model for international cooperation in the 21st century. We look forward to the respectful conclusion as a result of a passionate interaction among all of you. With your outcome, MOFA will further support the Prime Minister's leadership at the G8 Toyako Summit.

With this I would like to conclude my opening remarks. On behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, thank you very much.

Address

Ms. Safiye Çağar

Director, Information and External Relations Division (IERD)
United National Population Fund (UNFPA)

It is a pleasure to join you today in Tokyo for the G8 Parliamentarians Conference on Population and Sustainable Development: Global Health, Climate Change and Food Security. I would like to thank our hosts, the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP) and the organizers, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), in collaboration with the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), for bringing all of us together.

As parliamentarians and representatives of civil society, you play a key role in advocating for stronger commitment and investment in sexual/reproductive health and UNFPA is proud to be your partner.

Distinguished guests, Never before has the world's attention been so acutely focused on the changing global economy and environment. Today we face a world in which great distances have become smaller through advances in technology and communication. But at the same time the gap between the richest and poorest has grown larger. In this world, making progress towards environmental stability, health and food security is contingent upon understanding the complex relationship between environment and population size. Population growth is key to tackling the environmental challenge.

It is a challenge for the poorest countries to both meet the basic needs of their population and ensure environmental sustainability. This becomes even more challenging in the face of rapid population growth, especially where those sectors of the population that have the least ability to support themselves are growing the fastest. In a survey of 56 developing countries, for example, the poorest women across the countries surveyed were found to have on average 6 births, as compared to 3.2 births for the wealthiest women in those countries. In Gambia, for example, one in 5 girls will become

pregnant in their adolescence. In Afghanistan total fertility rates are, on average, 7 pregnancies per woman.

The increase in the number of large poor families leads to an increase in demand for fuel, water, food and other resources. Lack of access to water for drinking and agriculture is already putting pressure on about a third of the world's population, and in many places, climate change is expected to make the problem worse. This is the world we live in. Increasing population and the search for resources make the poor, and particularly women and children, unwitting agents of environmental strain.

Climate change and food insecurity are two interlinked threats to human security. Both are closely related to population change, and stabilizing population growth may give countries time to take measures to meet people's needs, while protecting the environment. Preventing unwanted births through voluntary family planning and guaranteeing people the right to reproductive health can help stabilize population growth rates and moderate environmental impact – and it may be one of the most cost effective ways of doing so.

But while many poor women have expressed the desire for smaller families, they do not have the resources or information to exercise their basic right to decide how many children they want and when they want them. More than 200 million women in developing countries, who would like to delay or prevent their next pregnancy, have an unmet need for contraceptives – and the total need for voluntary family planning is projected to grow by 40 % over the next 15 years.

Yet, in the face of this demand, voluntary family planning programming is one of the least funded areas of development assistance. To meet the unmet need, global population assistance should now exceed US\$1 billion per year for family planning, and increase to over one and a half

billion by 2015. Current assistance, however, is only just over half a billion – less than half of what is needed now and only one third of what is needed by 2015.

In many countries pregnancy and child birth is the biggest killer of women. More than half a million women die in pregnancy or childbirth each year – one woman dying each minute, 10 million over a generation. Lost. Dead. No woman should die giving life!

Maternal death is the world's biggest health inequity. The lifetime risk of dying in childbirth is as high as 1 in 7 in some African countries, as opposed to the rate here in Japan of 1 in 11,600 and 1 in 7,300 in developed countries on average. This is unacceptable in the 21st century. And the impact from each needless and tragic death is much larger when you look at the big picture. When mothers die, children, families, communities and nations suffer.

This is because women's contribution to national economic development is significant. The death or disability of a mother raises death and illness rates for children, destroys families, takes children out of school, and lowers household and community economic productivity. In 2001 the US Agency for International Development (USAID) estimated that, measured across the economy as a whole, maternal mortality costs society US\$15 billion in lost productivity every single year, and these costs threaten to undermine overall national development.

The problem of poor maternal health is, therefore, more than just a social tragedy. It is more than a violation of human rights. It is also an economic disaster. Added to this toll are the millions more women who survive childbirth, but who are left injured or disabled due to pregnancy related causes such as fistula. The largest cause of death and disability of young women in many countries is not infectious or neglected diseases. It is one of the most basic of human functions – reproduction – which ensures our very survival.

It becomes extra tragic, when we add, that some \$10 billion a year by 2010 is what is needed to save the lives of mothers, newborns and children and reach Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5. This may sound like a lot, but it would actually cost the world less than two-and-a-half-

day's worth of military spending.

Addressing unwanted pregnancy, through access to the full range of reproductive health services, including skilled birth attendants, emergency obstetric care and family planning, will not only contribute to stalling population growth and environmental degradation, it will also reduce the deaths of mothers and babies. Increasing demand for, access to, and use of these services can also improve gender equality by empowering women to take part in family and community decisions, and give them better opportunities for gaining education.

In many developing countries, providing full access to voluntary family planning would be far less costly in the long run than the environmental, social and economic consequences of rapid population growth. Voluntary family planning programmes have a record of success in slowing population growth and saving women from dying in childbirth. In Thailand and Malaysia, for instance, well-managed, fully voluntary programmes have led to significant change. Researchers project that addressing the unmet need for family planning could reduce fertility by up to 35% in Latin America and the Caribbean and 15% in Asia and western Africa.

As part of this effort, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), works to ensure universal access to reproductive health and the right of all people to be able to decide how many children they want and when to have them.

An important factor in improving reproductive health services in developing countries is the strengthening of national health systems. We must have health systems that can deliver for women when women are ready to deliver. Without strong, responsive health systems, developing countries will continue to be disproportionately affected by changes in climate and the availability of food, as well as access to health services. We only have to look to the recent tragedy in Myanmar to see how natural disasters leave the world's vulnerable without even the most basic needs.

UNFPA is uniquely positioned to face the rising challenge of climate change and food scarcity through initiatives which incorporate the many interrelated factors contributing to these crises

around the world. Our Strategic Plan for 2008 to 2011 outlines three main focus areas – population and development, reproductive health/rights, and gender equality. Our work address more direct causes of environmental instability, such as population growth, as well as more indirect, but equally important, factors such as gender roles and relations, and health systems.

By targeting outcomes ranging from demography and development to voluntary family planning and women’s empowerment, we are able to approach environmental sustainability and food shortage from the integrated perspective needed to tackle such complicated issues.

But we can’t do it alone. We rely on governments, we rely on parliamentarians, and we rely on civil society – especially non-government organisations, the media and faith based organisations. We need partners to believe in and speak out in support of our work and in support of reproductive health for all, including voluntary family planning.

We need your help to carry the messages, to advocate for our common mandate and the issues, and to remind leaders of their commitments to women and humanity. And most urgent and importantly, we need you to ensure that the outcome document that you will agree on at this meeting is brought to the attention of leaders when they attend the G8 conference next week.

It is essential that G8 leaders hear the following message:

- We must address the unmet need for family planning,
- We must ensure reproductive health for all,
- We must strengthen health systems,
- We must integrate population issues into all responses for addressing climate change, and
- We must not let women and children die needlessly from things that can be prevented.

If there is a will, there is a way.

Your Excellency, Distinguished Parliamentarians,

I know we can count on your support. Together we can make it happen. Thank you.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Hon. Dr. Taro Nakayama

MP, Japan

Principal Adviser for the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF)

Adviser for Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

Introduction

I welcome and thank you for joining us at the *G8 International Parliamentarians' Conference on Population and Sustainable Development*. The meeting is taking place on the eve of the G8 Summit. The G8 Summit was initiated in the aftermath of the 1973 Oil Shock and the ensuing global recession. Today we are experiencing crisis of soaring petroleum and food prices. In a sense one may say there are commonalities between the two.

Having said that, I note that 1973 was the midst of the cold war between the US and the USSR, and no one would have imagined then that Russia would be part of the G8. During these past 35 years, the world's population has increased from about 4 billion to 6.8 billion.

The organizer of the G8 parliamentarians' conference, the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF), was created in 1974, more or less at the same time. Globalization was starting then and we were learning fast that national economic challenges can only be resolved in the process of resolving the world's problems.

The G8 Summit has chosen climate change and food security as its main themes. As long as we continue to live on this planet, no country, without exception, will be immune to climate change. As our economies become increasingly interdependent, food security has become a global challenge, with the poorer countries being the most affected.

We have chosen global health, climate change and food security as the themes of our conference. Needless to say, they were consciously chosen with the G8 themes in mind because we intended to have the outcome of our deliberation reflected on theirs.

I would like to address the issues of global health, climate change and food security from the context of population and sustainable development. They are the very same issues that JFPF has been addressing since its inception.

Population and Sustainable Development

Before attempting at analysis, I would like to clarify where we stand on the issues. Population and sustainable development is the name we gave to our conference. The concept of "sustainable development" was identified by the Brundtland Committee in 1987. It is defined as "Development which, while satisfying demands of the future generation, will also satisfy those of the present generation".

It was in 1994 at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in Cairo, Egypt that the population issue was clearly linked with sustainable development for the first time by the United Nations. We parliamentarians placed population in the context of development at least ten years before the UN decided to do so. At the basis of this thought is that without development there cannot be a resolution to population challenges. It further states that the development should ensure sustainability of the global environment.

From the JFPF activities that began in 1974, under the leadership of Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) were created. The latter being a place for parliamentarians to conduct joint activities. As clear from the names of the two organizations, our parliamentary activities have, from the very beginning, positioned population within the context of development.

The activities bore a big fruit in 1984. The International Conference of Parliamentarians on

Population and Development (ICPPD) was held in Mexico City at the initiatives of the Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (GCPPD), JPPF and AFPPD, at the same time as the United Nations sponsored its Third World Population Conference. As the name of the conference suggests, the message was sent out to the world urging that the population issues be discussed within the context of development. At the time, the concept of “sustainable development” had not been born. However, the declaration adopted at the parliamentarians’ conference had clearly stated that “the resolution of the population issues must be placed in the development process” and that “there must be a harmony between population increase and the protection of the environment”. We may say that that was the forerunner of the concept of sustainable development.

At that time it was the father of Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda, former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, who was affectionately referred to as “the father of parliamentarians’ activities on world’s population challenges”, who served as the chairman. The parliamentarians’ activities were inspired by *The Population Bomb* published by Dr. Paul R. Ehrlich in 1968 and *The Limits to Growth* published by the Club of Rome which had issued a warning over the rising population, economic growth, environmental load and energy issues.

The Hon. Takeo Fukuda and his parliamentary colleagues embraced these global issues as their own. Convinced that parliamentary initiatives were essential in resolving these global issues they lost no time in acting on their convictions, initiating parliamentary activities on population and development. These global issues are as timely today as they were then. In fact, they have extremely grave significance given the pressing challenges posed by climate change and food security.

As politicians, the population issues dictate that the ultimate objective must be in creating a society where all can live in dignity. For humans to live as human beings, development is essential, but without ensuring its sustainability it will cause environmental destruction. This will bring disaster and misfortune to too many people. In this sense, protecting the environment is an absolute prerequisite. At the same time it is

absolutely essential that people have the means of supporting their livelihood. Without them, they will be exposed to hunger and as a result there will be no end to uncontrolled development. In other words, how can we balance our livelihood and the protection of our environment? We must find answers to this issue.

Stabilizing the Population and Development

It is our basic understanding that without stabilizing population there could not be sustainable development. One of the most basic requirements in achieving sustainable development is stabilizing the population, realizable only by way of Demographic transition.

The Demographic transition goes through a process: starting from “high fertility and mortality” then gradually achieving “high fertility and low mortality” and finally to “low fertility and low mortality”. Conventional demographic assumptions did not foresee that the fertility rate will ever become lower than the mortality rate; a reality experienced in some developed countries today. The low fertility rate is causing serious social systemic problems and social security funding, which are now some main challenges as politicians. What must not be forgotten is that if the propulsion continues to increase, we will have no future.

Low birthrate and aging will become greater problems, but while being conscious of that difficulty, I believe that it is possible to build a better society by improving the situation. We are committed to continuing our efforts in this regard.

Economic Growth and Stabilization of Population

When we began our initiatives it was thought that economic growth would bring about Demographic transition. There were ample cases to show that the assumption was appropriate and clearly effective. Empirical studies were also made by Dr. Toshio Kuroda, recipient of the UN Population Award and Dr. Lee-Jay Cho from the East-West Centre.

As international population programs were widely adopted, we began to see cases which contradict the assumptions. Today, through

APDA's research, we know that containing infant mortality and social empowerment of women have greater impact than economic development on Demographic transition.

What this means is significant. It means that the population does not necessarily stabilize, even if we succeed in developing our economies. It also means that what we need is not the kind of economic growth that inflates numbers which are far removed from real economies and too often encouraged by financial engineering. What is important is to build a society where every child born would be able to live a healthy life and to realize an environment where social development is enjoyed by all.

Food Security and Population

Let me address each of the following themes. With regard to food security and population, we must be reminded that the theory of population has its roots in the fear that food production may not keep up with population increase. It was Thomas Robert Malthus (1766-1834) who published an Essay on the Principle of Population in 1798 observing that population, if unchecked, will increase at a geometric rate whereas the food-supply will grow only at a formulaic pace. He feared that food production in principle could not keep up with the increase of the population and that these would cause epidemics, wars, famines, and social vice.

Today we know that the soaring food prices are taking their toll on the most vulnerable and poorest countries that depend on imported food. As long as food prices are set by the mechanism of the market, they will remain the same and be equal in the poorest countries as in the industrialized countries. Japan's per-capita GNP is US\$38,984. That of Burundi is \$96 or and the Congolese \$120, yet foodstuffs are purchased all at the same price. No one would ever think that the rising food prices would impact equally the developing, and developed societies. In particular, countries which have abandoned agricultural production as not economical in the process of structural adjustment will be most seriously impacted.

Japan, on the other hand imports 60% of its food. By importing an enormous amount of food we do not have a small impact on the world food supply and demand. In this context it is urgent for Japan to improve her food sufficiency while

complying with the international trading rules.

In the background of present rising food prices are the rising crude oil prices and the use of food stock grains and sugar cane for alternative energy such as vegetable oil or bio-ethanol production. The resultant switching of crops for energy production is said to have caused tight food supply and demand. At the recent FAO Food Summit these topics were raised as challenges but no consensual agreement could be reached.

While it is difficult to specify what is behind the rising food prices, I would like to draw your attention to the nature and prospect of food as a commodity. By nature, prices of food clash when there is an excess and soar when in short supply. For this reason, reddish azuki beans are known in Japan as a high risk commodity as its quotation repeats a cycle of boom and bust. Fictions of the past often featured millionaires made or ruined by the azuki markets. In other words, from the perspectives of financial engineering and investment it is an extremely attractive market. Given the scope of financial transactions in the present world economy, the grain market can rise sharply with a relative small flow of speculative capital.

On top of all this, the effects of global warming are resulting in excessive evaporation near the equator, prompting frequent localized heavy rain. On the other hand, the US and Australian granary plains that enjoyed certain amounts of humidity are being hit by drought. The drought is thought to be caused by torrential rain around the equator which reduces moisture in the air that is transported over the American and Australian plains.

The volatility in production volume of the main granary is causing a great deal of uncertainty. It is because the market prices fluctuate not so much by supply and demand but by expectations and projections. The uncertain production and supply is certainly encouraging higher future prices while over-heating the market. In any case, the effects of climate change, amplified within the market mechanism, are beginning to have a large impact. We expect professor Hara to lecture on this from a specialist's perspective.

The world population increase will undoubtedly raise food demand. I am fully aware that some

people would say, “Why? All you have to do is increase production”. To stabilize food supply and demand, each country would have to improve food self sufficiency. However, it is not that easy to perpetually increase grain production, which is our staple food. Why? Because there are restraining conditions for grain production, including the shortage of new land which could be suitable for cultivation, but the greatest limiting condition is fresh water which is the rarest of all resources.

As you know, most of the world’s fresh water resources are frozen in Antarctica and in Greenland’s glaciers. The water which is continuously available for our use is limited to the water within the hydrological cycle, specifically, its evaporation and precipitation. The volume of water is crucially limited, with one theory suggesting it is 8 to a hundred thousandth. One can assume the volume of this circulating water resource to be a constant. That is to say, that the available fresh water supplies for every person will diminish with more growth in population. The grain production depends greatly on this fresh water resource. That is to say, that as the population increases the demand for food also increases but at the same time the possibility of its production decreases. Therefore, we cannot indefinitely continue to increase food production.

The factors of population, water resources and the environment have not been considered as extra-economic conditions in our market economy. At the center of thought that supported the modern economy was David Ricardo’s (1772 -1823) principle of “Comparative Advantage”. Malthus and Ricardo, both scholars of the 18th century, were friends but at the same time great adversaries. Contemporary society is exposed to the clash between perspectives based on population and environment and that of modern economics that focuses on optimum economic mechanism. One can say that Malthus and Ricardo’s arguments continue to be debated today.

From a realistic perspective, we are asked to develop skill to adjust differing perspectives of market economic mechanism and that of population and environment.

The Climate Change and Population

What then is the relationship between climate

change and population? There is no doubt that climate change is impacted by human activity. With multiple factors involved, it is difficult to prove cause and effect relations with regard to the environment. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), however, has shown the enormity of the anthropogenic impact on the environment through its long standing research that received Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. It has become widely recognized that it is our activities that drive global warming and climate change.

Dr. Paul R. Ehrlich at Stanford University defined a formula $I = PAT$ to describe environmental load. “I” stands for the Impact to the environment and is the product of Population (P) times Abundance (A) and Technology (T). It is a classic and the simplest formula to understand environmental issues.

We call for the need for environmental policies, and a great deal of time is spent on discussing environmental technology. This is what one might call decoupling economic growth from the environmental load through the use of technological innovation. In a nutshell, it is aimed at reducing the load through efficient use of energy.

The other topical issue is the transfer of rights to emit global warming gases. This allows carbon emission rights to be traded under the market mechanism and prompts industrialized countries to purchase emission frameworks from developing countries and through technology transfer contribute to regulating carbon emissions and reduce the overall environmental load. Both are effective methods and must be promoted. There are, however, some points that require caution: Even with environmental technological development, there is no such technology with zero environmental load while simultaneously increasing the use of energy.

Emission rights trading as a carbon tax concept is an important mechanism that allows funds to flow from industrialized countries to developing countries to improve their environment. However, in principle, the mechanism has the same structure as aiming at market optimization. Therefore, while we may come close to improving efficiency and perhaps the optimization of distribution, it is not something that will reduce overall emission volume.

We are working hard to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) with the objective of reducing poverty. Generally speaking, improving life is accompanied with an increase in energy consumption. How does this relate to population increase?

From 2005 to 2050 it is estimated that the world population will increase by 2.676 billion. Of which 98.9% or 2.646 billion will represent an increase in the least developed countries. At present the LDCs account only for 7.6% of global CO₂ emission. But as development efforts succeed and per capita GDP rises, CO₂ emission will also undoubtedly increase. Assuming income increases by five-fold but without any improvement in technology, by 2050 CO₂ emission from the least developed countries will exceed that of the industrialized countries.

According to specialized environmental organizations, however, the diffusion of technology will suppress emission per capita at about half the rise of GDP. Even with the factor of 0.5, the LDC's emission will be about double the present level of industrialized countries, as a result of the population increase and the growth of economic activities. From the perspective of all developing countries, their emission levels will more than double those of industrialized countries today. And in that process, if only for a transient period, there will be an extreme increase in emission volume. As the present carbon emission level is already in excess, any additional increase can have a fatal effect on the earth's environment.

You must know by now that in discussions concerning environmental and population issues have not been factored in sufficiently. So, even if carbon emission rights trading are implemented fully and with innovative environmental technologies developed, any increase in population will mean adding to the increase of the environmental load.

The Millennium Declaration which was adopted by the head of state in 2000, and which stated that "We will spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty". Present international development programmes and schemes are planned under The Millennium Declaration. To realize the eradication of

extreme poverty, there are specific conditions that must be satisfied. That is to say, we must change the direction of our thinking; from wishful thinking that the economic growth will lead to stabilization of population, to realizing that in fact it is the stabilization of population that is needed to eliminate absolute poverty.

International Health and Population — Rights Based Approach

What solutions are there? Let us consider them from the perspectives of population and international health. As we know, global challenges we face are made up of complex factors. It is clear that without stabilizing the population, we can hardly begin to address the vexing challenges.

Suggestions made in the past have been hardly acceptable; they included imposing regulations on the total number of a national population or adopting quotas to the increase of population by country. It was the ICPD conference in Cairo that changed that perspective by 180 degrees. There, a clear commitment was made to address the population challenge within the context of sustainable development. The major paradigm shift was in identifying the population issue as the concern for every woman, and that improving her health and her right to the freedom of choice would lead to the resolution of the global population problem. These are referred to as reproductive health and reproductive rights.

Empowering women became an important development agenda to be realized through improving her social status and level of nutrition. As a result, today, population policy in each country is addressed by empowering a woman to enable her to improve her health and exercise her right of choice.

To be sure, there are criticisms that reproductive health/rights are approaching the issue in a microscopic manner at the expense of the macroscopic perspective of addressing it in the context of sustainable development. Indeed, for sometime after 1994, it seemed as if the population issue was centered solely around reproductive health/rights. In that situation a great number of responsible and thoughtful persons raised the question: "are we sure we can guarantee the livelihood of the poor and disadvantaged?", "Are we sure we have not lost

sight of pursuing development while protecting the environment at the same time?”

Today after almost 15 years since the Cairo meeting, we are convinced of our objective: To create a society in which we can all live decently as human beings. In other words, to recognize once and for all that our ultimate objective is to achieve sustainable development. The greatest outcome of the Cairo conference is that we have been able to create a happy situation; that by addressing population issues, we have been able to advance the cause of human rights.

Above all, our activities are aimed at protecting all forms of life. I am convinced that one of the sacred missions as legislators is to build a society where every child who is born can live in dignity as a treasured human being. At present, the central strategy in addressing the population challenge is to “prevent unwanted birth” and “to improve the environment so as to enable each child to grow in good health”. Efforts are made to achieve these objectives. In fact, research shows that decline in infant mortality reduces total fertility rate, the TFR. An African case indicates a high correlation of 0.86 in statistics calculated from the statistics of international organizations. In other words, if there is an environment where every child can grow up healthily, then the birth rate will clearly decline.

Another element that has high correlation to the infant mortality rate is women’s literacy. This is to say that in order to stabilize population, the most important thing is to improve maternal and child health. This, in turn, will result in achieving women’s social development and reduce maternal and infant mortality rates. All these are activities that protect the rights of every individual and it is the poor women in the poorest countries that benefit from these. Needless to say, every activity leads to enhancing the health and happiness of each individual. If we are successful in achieving the objective we would have put in place basic conditions to address climate change. That is to say, we can look towards a more promising future.

Addressing Climate Change

Addressing climate change, which is the theme of the G8, demands that the whole world be involved in addition to each country fulfilling its specific responsibilities.

- (1) The developed societies should promote energy conservation technology while controlling excessive consumption by reviewing their lifestyles.
- (2) In the emerging economies of developing countries, technological innovation should be achieved through the use of emission trading mechanisms, and energy conservation and pollution prevention technology should be introduced while striving to reduce CO₂ emission.
- (3) Least developed countries should improve maternal-child health so as to stabilize population and build the basis for future progress.

These will have to be conducted simultaneously. Along with addressing population challenges through expanding maternal and child health, the expedient transfer of environmental technologies to reduce environmental load in economically developing countries will be crucial.

Conclusion

I am confident that you will all engage in earnest deliberations on these issues, based on the outcome of your own national experiences. We don’t have to be reminded that we are all inhabitants of a planet that has become much smaller by developments in communication and transportation. There is no “somebody else’s problem” on this small earth of ours. If we want to secure a bright future for our children and their children, each country, regardless of developing or developed, should do what needs to be done.

I sincerely hope that the meeting will provide an open place for frank exchange between all of us, no matter where we come from, so that we can share our problems as well as our objectives.

Thank you for your attention.

INTRODUCTION
G8 from Germany to Japan and toward Italy

Chair:
Hon. Wakako Hironaka
MP, Japan
Acting-Chairperson of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JFPF)

INTRODUCTION

Results from 2007 G8 Summit Germany

Hon. Sibylle Pfeiffer

MP, Germany

Chair of Parliamentary Advisory Committee of the German Foundation for
World Population (DSW)

[MC: Dr. Osamu Kusumoto, Secretary-General/ Executive Director of APDA]

The Introductory Session will be chaired by Hon. Wakako Hironaka, Acting Chairperson of JPPF. Hon. Hironaka, a well-known expert on environment, has written a number of books, essays, translations, and critiques on education, culture, society, and women's issues. She was State Minister, Director-General of the Environment Agency in the Hosokawa Cabinet.

[Chair]

We would like to begin the Introductory Session. During this session we will receive a report from Hon. Sibylle Pfeiffer, MP from the German Parliament and Hon. Anne Van Lancker from European Parliament.

Hon. Pfeiffer is the Chair of DSW's Parliamentary Advisory Committee, and she was the chair of the G8 Parliamentary Conference that was held at the same time as the Heiligendamm G8 Summit. Hon. Van Lancker comes from Belgium and she is the President of EPF in charge of integrating the parliamentary activities in Europe. So I urge you now to welcome Hon. Pfeiffer to discuss the results from 2007 G8 Summit in Germany.

[Hon. Sibylle Pfeiffer MP, Germany]

I would like to thank the organizers of this conference for the invitation. It is my greatest pleasure to attend this two-day conference and to share with you today the results of the G8 Summit in Germany and the role that German Parliamentarians played in this process to date and will have to play regarding the Japanese and the following G8 Presidencies.

As you can see the German delegation has a size of 5 MPs which shows the huge interest and engagement on the side of the German Parliamentarians on the issue of global health. Most of them are members of the Parliamentary

Advisory Committee of the German Foundation for World Population (DSW) which is an informal group consisting out of 34 parliamentarians from all political parties, that work to ensure that the Millennium Development Goals and the Cairo Plan of Action are implemented.

Last year, in May, the German Foundation for World Population Parliamentary Advisory Committee, the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (EPF), and German Foundation for World Population organised the G8 Parliamentarians' Conference in Berlin entitled "G8 Parliamentarians Conference on the Economic Rewards of Investing in HIV/AIDS Prevention and Health".

More than 120 parliamentarians from Africa, Europe, Asia and G8 countries and international experts as well as high level speakers such as the German Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, and the Head of the Federal Chancellery, Thomas de Maizière, attended the meeting which had a significant impact on the German G8 process.

The parliamentarians concluded with a very strong appeal which was sent out from the MPs themselves to the Heads of State and Governments. The so-called *Berlin Appeal* was internationally recognized at high-level as it was amongst others affirmed in the Tokyo Statement of Parliamentarians on Population, Health, and Community Capacity Development and presented in the Tanzanian Parliament.

This conference today and tomorrow stands in the tradition of the conference in Berlin and the parliamentary conferences in conjunction with the G8-Presidency of the UK in 2005 and Russia in 2006 and I hope that the conference here in Tokyo will have the same impact on the G8 Summit in a few days as in 2007.

In 2007 Germany was at the focus of the development community holding both the Presidency of the European Union (EU) and the Presidency of the G8 in that year. The Presidencies made considerable progress on issues related to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) agenda and the Cairo Program of Action.

Chancellor Merkel made Africa and the fight against HIV/AIDS a focus of the German G8 Presidency. Especially the link between HIV/AIDS and sexual/reproductive health was highly promoted during both the G8 and EU Presidency last year. For the first time in G8 history, women's empowerment was prominent on the agenda which was strongly supported by the German Parliamentarians.

The G8 Summit Declaration *Growth and Responsibility in Africa* includes the pledge to take concrete steps to improve the link between HIV/AIDS activities and sexual/reproductive health and family planning programmes.

As Chairlady of German foundation for World Population Parliamentary Advisory Committee I am proud to say that our longstanding political engagement for sexual/reproductive health and women's rights has paid off!

In addition to the G8 Parliamentarians Conference, we were active on a number of levels. We launched for instance the Parliamentary petition on "*Measures for the Fight against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria*" on the 21st of September 2007. With this petition we referred to the Global Fund's Replenishment Conference that took place in Germany from 26 to 28 September 2007. The petition emphasizes the need to align the fight against HIV/AIDS with the protection of women, to strengthen health systems and to increase relevant financing for the fight against the most threatening diseases.

During the G8 Presidency Germany announced that between 2008 and 2015 it will be providing a total of 4 billion Euros for the fight against HIV/AIDS including financial support for sexual/reproductive health/rights (SRHR). This means an increase from 400 million Euros in 2007 to 500 million Euros in 2008. In addition, Germany increased its contribution to the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and

malaria from 87 million Euros in 2007 to 200 million Euros in 2008.

I am especially happy to announce that funding for UNFPA increased from 15 million in 2007 to 16 million in 2008. This increased funding for UNFPA is important proof for what we parliamentarians can achieve and what we can push forward! In addition, Germany later announced increased funding for 2007 on UNFPA of 3.5 million Euros.

I want to express that without the important work of the Non-Governmental Organisations it would have been much more difficult to achieve these results. Their knowledge and engagement is very much needed to increase pressure and to achieve increased Official Development Assistance (ODA) and a stronger political and financial commitment towards the fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and sexual/reproductive health/rights.

But why do we need increased political and financial commitment? Because we are not at all on track to achieve the Millennium-Development Goals! In this respect, please allow me to make a particular point. I am concerned that in the current political debate on climate change and global health does not have the significance that it should have.

The discussion on climate change and environmental degradation is very important – please don't get me wrong. But in order to reach the Millennium Development Goals we are not allowed to neglect the health MDGs, which are MDG 4, 5 and 6. The MDGs cannot be achieved without addressing child and maternal mortality and combating against the terrible diseases. As poverty is strongly linked to securing the health of the people, it is a vicious circle; Poor people are mainly affected by illness and do not have access to health systems which does not offer them any chance to get out of their bad situation.

In order to reach the MDGs, we aren't solely focus on HIV/AIDS. Low and middle income countries also suffer from so-called neglected (poverty-related) diseases. These include leprosy, river blindness and sleeping sickness. Up to 1 billion people suffer from these diseases. They are termed neglected due to the fact that there are little or no medicines to treat them.

And why aren't there medicines available for treatment? That is because not enough research and development is carried out. And why isn't enough research taking place, might you ask? Simply because there is no market for these medicines, that's why it isn't worth it. Only 10% of worldwide research funds in the bio-medical area are spent on the research and development of those medicines for diseases which 90% of people suffer from. And, as expected, the majority of the 90% of the people live in the poorest regions of the world.

From 1974 to 2004 almost 1,600 new substances were introduced to the market. Out of that sum, merely 8 were for malaria treatment and 3 for tuberculosis. The situation isn't any better for the other earlier mentioned diseases. It is however imperative that we act quickly. We all – meaning the National Parliamentarians, Governments, NGOs, and the pharmaceutical industry – have a part to play.

It is not true that the market will sort itself out. The poor do not possess the necessary buying power. This is why we members of the German Parliament brought forward an appropriate motion in Parliament that deals mainly with this issue. We call upon the German Government to explore means and ways to promote research for medicines for neglected diseases. What is needed is a mechanism, which allows the costs for research and development to be separated from the production price for low and middle income countries.

Significant improvements have been made in the last few years in response to the needs of people affected by HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. However, we are still faced with a global HIV/AIDS pandemic which kills 2.1 million people yearly, while 33 million people are living with HIV/AIDS. The G8 commitment to achieve universal access to prevention, treatment and care by 2010 remains off track and far from being achieved.

The UN High-Level Meeting a couple of weeks ago demonstrated that for every patient who has access to HIV/AIDS treatment, 6 other individuals become infected with HIV/AIDS. Last year 2.5 million people became infected, but only 1 million got therapy. The high-level meeting also demonstrated that HIV/AIDS has become a great problem in Eastern Europe.

There we have partly higher infection rates than in Africa.

Mistakes that were made elsewhere aren't be made again. Bulgaria is a positive example of a country in which a national HIV/AIDS strategy was put into place and where everyone has access to prevention and voluntary testing services and information.

At a global level the status quo is far from satisfactory. This is why I want to stress that we have to focus on prevention and education. At the G8 Summit in Heiligendamm, G8 leaders committed to work towards the goal of providing universal coverage of Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (PMTCT) programmes by 2010. This has to be followed-up during the G8 Presidency in Japan because globally 90% of all HIV-positive children are infected through mother-to-child transmission.

We know that HIV/AIDS is more than a medical issue. This disease/infection is also affected by tradition and traditional structures. With gender inequity and oppression of women – essentially a violation of basic human rights, young people and especially young women are at particular risk of being infected. More than 60% of people living with HIV/AIDS are women; young women are 6 times more likely to be HIV positive than young men. This is why we have to address mainly the feminization of the epidemic and its linkage to sexual/ reproductive health and family planning.

It is not acceptable that every minute a woman dies due to pregnancy or childbirth. Almost all of these women – 99% – live and die in developing countries. Every year, more than 1 million children are left motherless and vulnerable because of maternal death.

Besides HIV/AIDS, Malaria also poses a huge problem to maternal health. Pregnant women are at a 2 to 3 times higher risk of suffering from malaria than non-pregnant women. Every 30 seconds malaria kills a child. This is easily avoidable simply by using mosquito nets.

Ladies and Gentlemen, why does this happen?

This is because in most of the developing countries the health care system does not work.

Most of the women are young girls whose body is not yet ready for pregnancy but they do not know how they can protect themselves from unwanted pregnancies and even if they do they only have limited access to health services and supplies.

We still live in a world in which women do not have basic control over what happens to their bodies. Millions of women and girls are forced to marry and have sex with men they do not desire.

During a study tour to Ethiopia with the German Foundation for World Population in February 2007, I visited the fistula hospital in Addis Ababa. My colleagues and I were extremely touched by what we saw and what we learnt.

As parliamentarians, we are the bridge between people and the officials of our government. We have the power to support and to protect women's rights, so let's do so!

During this conference we want to discuss the linkage between global health, climate and the actual food crisis. Regarding the current food security crisis, kindly allow me to briefly highlight 2 issues:

Firstly, the rural development in low and middle income countries was highly neglected in the past years. This is careless. In this respect we need a quick and drastic re-think.

Secondly, once more in this regard – like in the area of global health – the empowerment of women was neglected. It is incredible that women in developing countries are responsible for the production of 80% of staple food while they only own 2% of land. In my opinion there is a strong connection between the economic discrimination of women and the feminisation of HIV/AIDS.

I want to draw your attention to the role that population growth plays within this discussion. 6.7 billion people are living in this world, most of them in the developing countries. The United Nations estimate that by 2050 the number will increase to 9 billion people. Worldwide, enough food is produced to feed everyone, but especially in the poor countries people have to

fight to get something to eat because they do not have access to it or do not have the money to satisfy their basic needs.

And the problem even increases due to climate change which is mainly caused by the industrial countries. The African people will be most severely affected by soil and water degradation, food and water shortages which will have a negative impact on their health.

Reproductive health services can slow down the rate of population growth. Fertility rates are highest in the poorest countries and among the poorest people in these countries. Constructive policies, including access to information and to reproductive health services and supplies could significantly improve the lives of poor rural populations, namely by enabling them to avoid unintended pregnancies.

In conclusion I see a need for increased efforts to:

- (1) Avoid that global health is neglected within the current political debate
- (2) Focus on prevention and the empowerment of women and
- (3) Support universal access to reproductive health by 2015.

Finally, I want to stress that I am very happy to see that this conference in Tokyo takes place as a follow-up to the G8 Parliamentarians' Conference in Berlin last year. Last year we discussed very important issues that we will discuss and build upon during the upcoming two days.

Next year, Italy will take over the G8 Presidency and I am sure we parliamentarians will meet again at the next G8 Parliamentarians' Conference in Italy. I hope very much that the results from Tokyo will feed into the next G8 Conference. I am sure that we will have very interesting, productive and encouraging discussions – leading to lasting results.

As you see, there is a lot to do – so let's start tackling these problems!

Thank you very much!

INTRODUCTION

Hopes for 2009 G8 Summit Italy

Hon. Anne Van Lancker

MEP, Belgium

President of European Parliamentary Forum on Population & Development (EPF)

I would like to start first with thanking the Japanese Parliamentarian Federation for Population for hosting us and the Asian Population and Development Association for organizing this event. Allow me to change a little bit the title of my presentation because first of all I'm not Italian, I'm from Belgium, and I'm from the European Parliament. Secondly, I was not planning to address the Italian G8 summit since we are still ahead of the Hokkaido Toyako G8 Summit.

I think in the year 2008 the G8 should make a new turning point in enhancing collective efforts to ensure that by 2015 all the MDGs will be achieved worldwide. This is a very important G8 Summit, because this G8 comes just before the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in September and afterwards, later on in September, we will have the UN high-level meeting on Africa's development and then afterwards on the MDGs, and then further on in the year we will have the Global Conference on Financing for Development in Doha, so it's crucial that this G8 becomes a real success.

Now, whilst progress was made in certain countries and regions on certain of the MDGs, the situation for maternal health and child health remains a very serious challenge, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. The G8 all committed themselves to achieving the MDGs, and in their commitment of Heiligendamm, as Sibylle already stated, the G8 committed themselves to provide \$60 billion to address health related needs in Sub-Saharan Africa, including support for health systems strengthening and efforts to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria. In 2008, I think it is time to step up a gear to confirm and to strengthen the G8 leadership in addressing the needs of African societies, women and children, in partnership with the African leaders and communities.

What the G8 needs to do now is to identify a clear frame for reaching this \$60 billion goal in health funding for Africa because we all know that there still is a very serious shortfall in funding for health care, and efficiency and democratic accountability of the delivery. During this year's G8 Summit, the governments should first of all recommit to universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, and care by 2010, as promised in Gleneagles in 2005, and with particular attention to the most vulnerable groups, to women and children.

Secondly, agree and announce a comprehensive funding and action plan with clear timetables that show who will pay how much, and how, and when, for the commitment to fund the \$60 billion done in Heiligendamm. Thirdly, not forget that population issues and global health are very closely related to food security and climate change, and address population and health issues when dealing with climate change. I would like to warn, not in a sense of Malthusian population control, but in a sense of the real Cairo agenda, which means enabling women to make informed choices.

Allow me to say this, there has hardly been any progress on health related MDGs in some parts of the world. On child mortality, for example, in Latin America, the Caribbean, South East and Eastern Asia, North Africa, have seen their child mortality rates declining by 3% per year. However, none of this progress is seen in Sub-Saharan Africa. Infant mortality is hardly declining, and still 170 children under 5 die per 1000 live births. In the developed world only 7 of them do. Some progress has been made on immunization, but with the current state of affairs, child mortality rate will only be reduced by one-quarter instead of two-thirds, unless substantial additional efforts are made.

Secondly, on maternal health, 10.5 million lives of women and newborns are lost every year due

to what should be one of the most joyful moments in life, giving birth. We know perfectly what should be done to prevent maternal mortality, and that is why women in the rich world don't die from childbirth. In Southern Asia 540, and in Sub-Saharan Africa up to 920 women die per 100,000 live childbirths. If we really want to achieve and to reduce maternal mortality by three-fourths by 2015, which means 35 million more births should be attended by skilled health personnel each year. A lot remains to be done to provide 50 million more women in Africa with modern contraceptives and give them access to family planning.

On AIDS, TB, and malaria, despite all efforts, more than 5 million people are newly infected every year, and more and more they are young, they are African, and they are women. 30 million women in Africa living with malaria in malaria endemic areas become pregnant every year. And up to 200,000 newborns die as a result of malaria in pregnancy. We all know that HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria are very much interconnected. Adequate control of these communicable diseases needs a coordinated and integrated approach. Therefore, the G8 should not only deliver upon the commitment and contribute substantially and in a predictable manner to the global fund to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria, but they should also increase their efforts to bridge the financing gap of \$27 billion. This is estimation by the World Health Organization, to strengthen the capacity of health care systems, so that basic health care packages can be delivered effectively.

Since the 2005 World Summit, heads of governments agreed to establish a new target under MDG 5; to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015. That new target, brought us new hope because access to reproductive services, contraceptives, family planning, skilled birth attendants, can avoid unwanted pregnancies and unsafe abortions, but also allow women to decide over the number and the spacing of their children, and ensure good conditions for pregnancy and birth giving.

The challenge in the G8 now is to make that new hope a reality, and to convince the G8 donors and partner countries to build up national strategies to ensure access to affordable sexual/reproductive health supplies and services,

especially for the poorest sections of society and of vulnerable groups. It must be crystal clear to all of us that all strategies have to fully support women and girls position in society, because empowerment of women and giving girls equal rights is essential to reach the MDGs. Only when girls can go to school as boys do, when women can participate in the economy and in society, development goals can be met. We know that investing in women pays off. Let's convince our governments that gender equality is a cornerstone of cooperation.

Then finally, to go back to my previous point, I said that the G8 in Japan is coming at a very keen moment in the forefront of the Accra Summit, at the UN high-level meetings, in the perspective of the Doha Conference. Now in order to show G8's determination to lead international efforts in achieving health related MDGs framework, we urgently need a follow-up mechanism of health issues, because that would address the latest situation on health challenges. It would also enable us to get more detailed monitoring of donor flows, lead to the mobilization of additional resources and it could make aid flows more predictable. Above all, such a monitoring system including sexual breakdowns would enhance the roles of elected officials in partner development countries. It would strengthen the positions of parliamentarians all over the world to hold their governments accountable. So let's go for a broad discussion on these issues, and moreover, deliver upon our promises and deliver a strong statement to the G8 governments that are going to meet in a few days time. I wish you all success possible.

Discussion — INTRODUCTION

[Chair]

Thank you so much Ms. Lancker for a very forceful and inspiring speech. As all of us here know, the G8 Summit is taking place in Japan this year and in Italy next year, how do we link our discussions to the next conferences? I think after listening to the 2 speakers, I'm sure many of you around the table are itching to share your thoughts, so please raise your hand and talk to us

about what's happening in your countries. Pakistan, go ahead please.

[Hon. Dr. Donya Aziz MP, Pakistan]

Thank you very much Chairperson. I would like to congratulate both speakers this morning on their points of view regarding global health, especially throughout the world. I am a doctor by profession, and it really breaks my heart to see the state of health in the developing world when so much more can be done. But unfortunately, throughout the developed world and developing world, we're still searching for the will to really implement global health systems that will work. It can be done and it's just a matter of searching for the will.

I would like to raise one point about the donor funding that comes to the developing world from countries like the G8 countries and how is that money utilized. I think that to really do justice with donor funding, the donor countries need to evaluate how much of that money is actually being spent in the countries it's allocated for and how much of it is really coming back to the donor country in terms of consultancy fees, and overhead costs and administration costs. I know in Pakistan we recently had a \$200 million grant from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for reproductive health issues. And all of the local NGOs who wanted to bid for the funding had to partner with a US consultancy firm, and I can tell you more than half of that \$200 million is actually going to be going back. So it's fantastic that countries who can afford it really help other countries. It's really your generosity and your good will that helps a lot of the developing world move forward. But I think that at the end of the day we need a little more honesty. I know \$500 billion has been earmarked in the past for Africa and really it was only \$250 billion that is being spent in Africa because the other half is going back to those countries. I think that it's unfair to say that so much money is going to the developing world because then I'm sure your taxpayers want to know why they can't show any result if so much money is going there, but many times your taxpayer doesn't know so much money is coming back to your own country. So if I could have your opinion on that, thank you.

[Chair]

Ms. Lancker.

[Hon. Anne Van Lancker MEP, Belgium]

As I said, this G8 is going to happen just before the Accra Summit. The Accra Summit is about aid effectiveness, and aid effectiveness is all about the Paris Declaration. Now one of the major problems, as you mentioned, is conditionality of aid, not only just in technical assistance, but donor countries are imposing lots of conditions upon the partner countries in the kind of ways they spend their money.

And in fact, as you said, a lot of this money is going back to the actual donors. It's not fair and it's not efficient. Because if you bring the money back by the technical assistance provisions that you foresee in your donor aid to your own country, then of course you don't do any capacity building in the countries concerned, which means you perpetuate the amount of aid that is necessary. And that is why I think it's so crucial that we really focus on strengthening the health systems in the countries concerned, with the people concerned, with addressing also the whole problem of brain drain, because that is another way of rich and developed countries taking away the possibilities of development of the partner countries. So I think we really should focus on this in Accra.

In order for aid to be effective, I think a second thing that we should stress is that we need democratic ownership of the countries concerned. That means parliamentarians and civil society must be involved in controlling the aid flows, because it will only be when parliamentarians and civil society are involved, that we really can point to the problems that are raised with the flows of aid and the bad way in certain cases in which it is spent. I really think that the Accra Summit, if that would be the delivery of Accra – less conditionality, less flows back and more democratic ownership – would really be a big success.

[Chair]

Thank you so much. You would like to add, Hon. Pfeiffer?

[Hon. Sibylle Pfeiffer MP, Germany]

We all cannot be successful without the support of the national governments of the developing countries. If we don't have this support, and the political role of these countries, we will not be successful. And whatever we discuss we have to discuss with the developing countries and with

their wills, and we have to work together. You can't be successful if you do it as an NGO or such. If there is not political rule in the country, we will not be successful and the money is then spent elsewhere.

[Chair]

From South Africa, go ahead please. Then Senegal, Nigeria, in that order please.

[Hon. Tshililo Michael Masutha MP, South Africa]

I just wanted to say that if I were to mention 1 central word to the challenges that we face, I would imagine not only us as a country, but the developing world in general, out of the many words I would think of the word "skills". I think that was one of the issues that was touched upon, but does need to be elevated. Skills of the developing world are bleeding essential skills to the developed world.

Some may say it's a matter of economics, of demand and supply, but I think there are certain moral imperatives about it. If we are going to lose more doctors, more social workers in the developing world, how are we going to reverse some of the trends that you've alluded to? It's not necessarily so that the West need the skills more than the under-developed world. So, that is one challenge which I don't know if the Summit will respond to.

Secondly, we have the further challenge as a developing world, that unlike the developed world which is growing older, we are growing younger. And yet our young population very often experiences high levels of unemployment, which are consequently linked with other socio-economic issues of the spread of disease and substance abuse. In South Africa for example, a week ago, the committee that I chair, which is social development committee, has just presented a new bill on prevention and treatment of substance abuse, which is an increasing challenge amongst young people, which is also linked to the maternal issues and reproductive health issues. So, in short I think that if we look at the issue of skills, from both the view point of the need to enhance the development of skills, especially amongst young people, but also look at the challenge of the developing world bleeding skills and how we're going to reverse that. Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you so much. Senegal please.

[Hon. Elhadji Malick Diop MP, Senegal]

I am a chair of the network of Senegal Members of Parliament on Population and Development and also Vice President of FAAPPD. Let me start by thanking APDA and JPPF for inviting me here, and I also would like to thank the FAAPPD and the President who is also here today. With regard to the Prime Minister Fukuda's opening address, may I share my thoughts on what he said. Of course, I cannot agree more that we need to share a long-term vision. We are Africans and we are developing countries, but we must work with the developed societies from a long-term perspective. Now, nothing can be done without a global perspective. Now oil is \$150 per barrel and it is increasing and affecting our economy. Because of the high rising petrol cost there is deterioration of economy and there is unrest because people are hungry. We discuss food security, and that is important. But before we discuss securing food, we must put the food on the table today and think about stockpiling for tomorrow. Eating is basic to human life. We must solve this issue first, above everything else.

And I would like to ask the two resource persons about the effectiveness of ODA. How effectively is ODA used? And of course, there are many principles announced about giving and using ODA. There are strategies and those principles have been adopted at the Paris Conference, but how can we implement them, in the area of medical care and health services?

Reproductive health is affected very much by lifestyle. It is also affected by how much women are empowered in a given society or community. In 2006, we adopted a bill on reproductive health, but we have no regulations to implement this law that has been passed. In other words, we have been unable to address how we can make contraceptive supplies and provide to people who need them. Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Next question, Nigeria, after which, we will ask the resource persons to answer them.

[Hon. Saudatu Sani MP, Nigeria]

I am from the Parliament of Nigerian House of Representatives, and I'm the new Chair of the

Committee on the Millennium Development Goals. In 2007, the House created a new committee to focus on the MDGs in Nigeria and globally. I have been involved in reproductive health, but this is the first time I'm attending a conference of parliamentarians on population and sustainable development. I want to thank you for inviting me.

I want to say that I'm happy to see 2 organizations here that have been helping me as a person and as a committee, the UNFPA that sponsored me to come here, and the IPPF that supported our committee to do some work. I am saying this because the role of Parliament is very crucial to the attainment of the MDGs 4 and 5 and other related human development efforts. However, let me be very specific. In African countries, the Parliament is weaker than the Executive. In the 48 years of Nigeria's existence as a Republic, only 29 years of that existence have had an elected civilian president and we have staggered democratic elections. We have only had a long stretch of democracy since 1999. So the only one arm of government that is very weak is the Parliament. Because it is weak, a lot of decisions being made, and executed, and implemented are done by a very strong Executive. As a Parliament, we are doing everything possible to see to the positive change of sustainable development, especially in terms of population.

This year in 2008, we are able to allocate 200 billion Naira toward reproductive health, reduction of maternal mortality, and access to family planning, but this is not without other challenges. Nigeria has about 140 million people, which is very large. It has many other challenges such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and many other diseases, including violence in the Niger Delta, including environmental degradation. So I want to say that, while we look at the contribution of our national countries, as part of our contribution to sustainable development, the global contribution to Africa will help Africans also attain the MDGs. Whatever you contribute is fully monitored by the person contributing it, and there's also a responsibility by the country to also give in their own contributions. If you let Africans stand by on their own, we will never attain the MDGs, because the money is there, but other challenges are there to also compound the issues.

We have brain drain. We have no equipped hospitals, and our health system is very much weak. We have a problem with immunization. I have just been discussing with my colleague from Niger that any infection from Nigeria goes to Niger. The virus does not respect any geographical boundary. It moves to Niger, it moves to Libya and it becomes an African problem. So there must be an affirmative effort for G8 countries to support Africa and Africans, and to also empower Parliament. If parliamentarians are not empowered, we will not be able to check the Executives. So we need to strengthen the Parliaments and empower Parliament at every level.

Then women have to be empowered. How is she empowered? It is not just by giving contraceptives; the woman has to be empowered through education. The moment a woman gets an education, she is able to make decision on herself. She can also take the decision on her children, so we need to commit money for the education of children. We have a lot of street children in Africa. We have children roaming the streets in search of knowledge. This doesn't happen in Arab countries.

So unless we work together as a team, a global partnership, these challenges will continue. So I'm calling on all of us here, to look at the whole Africa as part of the global community, so together we can address the issue of weak parliament, poverty, and education of women. Unless we do that, we will have a big vacuum of disease and unemployment and poverty. Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Next, Uganda, and then Ghana and Bolivia.

[Hon. Sylvia N. M. Ssinabulya MP, Uganda]

I want to thank all the presenters for the very good presentations. While listening to all the presentations, one of the issues which has come out is the need to increase skilled birth attendants, however, the bigger issue is why women are not accessing skilled birth attendants. One of the answers would be that governments cannot afford to pay a decent salary to the skilled attendants, but the other issue is brain drain.

The previous speakers have already alluded to the fact that Africa and the rest of the developing world are suffering from massive brain drain. We need to ask ourselves a question: “Where are the doctors, the midwives, the nurses going?” It is obvious that they are going to developed countries. What have developed countries done to support Africa and the developing world to solve this problem? As Africans, we can’t stop our people from moving to countries which can offer them a decent salary and a decent living, but I think the onus is on the developed world to invest more in the training of human resources, because the developing countries need the human resources, and what we need is resources to train them so that there can be enough for both the developing countries. So my interest would be to see the G8 addressing the issue of brain drain, by providing sufficient resources to developing countries to train more of these skilled attendants. Thank you.

[Hon. Akua Sena Dansua MP, Ghana]

As I sat listening to speaker after speaker, it is clear that every year parliamentarians have to meet and discuss the shortfalls in resources to address all the issues that we are talking about. It also looks like the G8 countries are making pledges every year without actually delivering on them, so I’m wondering whether instead of it being a yearly ritual of coming to sit down and questioning why commitments are not met, whether we cannot put up a small lobby of parliamentarians and identify who can follow up the G8 leaders after each conference to ask them how much of the pledges they have actually put on the table, what the balance is, what time is the deadline by which they should make all their commitments realizable.

So I think that it is high time that all of us put our heads together – maybe as one of the outputs of this conference – to set up a lobby to follow them, name and publish them. I’m not saying shame them in the true sense of the word, but its like if we have a list of countries that have delivered, countries that have not delivered, what’s this impact on their image as G8 people? We have to be accountable to the world, we have to deliver our pledges, and then that is the only way that we can make progress. Otherwise, every year we will sit and lament and nothing gets done. Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Bolivia, please.

[Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo MP, Bolivia]

I want to ask about 2 points. The first point is what you think about the bio-diesel or bio-ethanol for more consumption in the developing countries? With this problem we don’t have food, and the question is, “Are cars more important than human beings?” What are we going to do about this problem? The second point is developing countries don’t only need financial support. We want to know, what about the responsibility in the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and the Millennium Development Goals and of course, what do you do about the control of the multi-national corporations with offices in your countries? In Bolivia, we think that the natural resources and basic services like water, food, medicines and education are human rights. And of course, the responsibility of these issues is very important. Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Finally, Zambian representative, after your question, there’s wrap-up by the resource persons.

[Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa MP, Zambia]

I’d like to start by stating that we stand a very good chance of achieving something here considering that the Prime Minister himself came and he is sympathetic to the goals of our organization, and has been associated with the activities of the Japanese Parliamentarians Federation for Population. Also see that one of the issues we are talking about is climate change. Initially the US government, President Bush, abrogated the Kyoto Protocol, but now it seems like that action and a lot of other activities from the industrialized countries have led to the deterioration in the state of the climate of the world, and I think at this juncture there seems to be a more favourable attitude, even if from Mr. Bush himself, towards climate change. So we hope that the deliberations with regard to population issues of climate are likely to have some impact, and that I’d like to believe that President Bush being about to leave office would lead to something positive for us to think about. So I believe that if this matter is pushed, we should be able to achieve a little bit more.

We hope that what is happening to the south of us, in Zimbabwe, will not unnecessarily impinge on the MDGs. But what I'm looking at are the predatory policies of the economically advanced countries with regard to personnel, especially in the health sector. It is becoming increasingly difficult to deal with issues of maternal and child health, in the absence of trained manpower, due to brain drain, amongst other factors.

Maybe one of the issues that we should be looking at is to ensure that a bit more resources are put into training, because the way I see it, we cannot let legislative and the parliaments dictate that people cannot look for greener pastures. With the economies of the developing and developed countries as they are, chances are that some of the best trained physicians are going to be attracted away from these countries, and this problem will be with us for quite some time. And as some of my colleagues have said, we have lacking resources, competing needs for health, education and infrastructure development. Sometimes you find that inadequate resources are given to issues dealing with the maternal, child health, newborn infant health and all that.

These amounts which are being pledged by the G8 and other nations are quite big, but whether all of them are going down to the intended targets is something different. One of our colleagues from Pakistan has emphasized the fact that maybe 50% of this aid goes back, so you are wondering, development aid for who? Whether it's going down or it's just going round and round. My hope is that in raising all these issues, the resources that come out of this should be targeted a little more carefully towards, the specific areas, and I think parliaments ought to come in a little bit more.

My colleague from Nigeria was saying Parliaments are relatively weak compared to the Executive and that is quite true. In my own Parliament, very little resources are given to this. In fact, the Committee on Population and Development of Zambia is considered a voluntary organization and is not even funded by Parliament at all. Thanks to UNFPA, I was able to come; otherwise Parliament itself doesn't even have resources for my participation. So you can see that these are issues that have to be addressed.

On the whole I'm quite hopeful that maybe this meeting should be able to achieve a little bit more, and we should even try to be very ambitious in our Statement and I don't want to call them demands, but I think we should state in such a way that our leaders and the G8 should be looking at this a little more carefully than before. Thank you.

[Chair]

I'm sure there may be others who wish to speak, but this is just the introductory session and we have more sessions afterwards. So, with your permission I would like to invite the two resource persons to comment on the questions raised. I think the issues of the accountability of aid given, the amount of aid to be accounted for, the empowerment of parliaments, democratic governments, the question of brain drain, amount of aid being spent, and priority have been brought up by people who spoke. Go ahead please. Hon. Pfeiffer.

[Hon. Sibylle Pfeiffer MP, Germany]

Let me answer in general, because I think I can generalize all your problems. Germany pays budget support in most of the developing countries. When you tell us that the parliamentarians are weak in one or the other country, I think that this is the biggest problem. In general, we are talking about good governance. We are talking about what is government and what parliamentarians are doing with budget support. What is the political priority? If the political priority is to build up health services, to pay teachers, to pay nurses, and to pay midwives and whatever you say, they stay in their country. We are talking about good governance, and we are talking about participation of the people in the countries, so that's what we have to do.

We have to strengthen the parliamentarians, and we have to take care that money is going to where we need to have it. When we discuss good governance, we have to talk about corruption. So that is one of the main problems.

So, what can parliamentarians do? As you say, parliamentarians are weak. I don't hope that it is like that, but if it is that way, Germany has to think about whether budget support is the right way to support the people, or the country. So what comes first, democratic structures or budget support? I would say let us have

democratic structures, and after that budget support and it will come the right way. How can we achieve this? This is something I unfortunately cannot answer. I'm just a parliamentarian. But I think, whatever help you need, tell us and we will do that.

[Hon. Anne Van Lancker MEP, Belgium]

I have the impression that our discussion is already raising some controversies in Europe. I hope that at the end of these 2 days, we will get out of it. Let first say that I would like to join our African colleagues in the thanks that we give UNFPA to enable them to be here, because I don't think it would be very fruitful if only members of parliament belonging to the G8 or rich countries could be here and have discussions on what the G8 should deliver. We should never do anything without our African and other Asian colleagues. So thank you very much UNFPA, and thank you to the African colleagues for being here in big numbers altogether, if I may say so.

Now, one of the big challenges that had been addressed by our colleagues is aid effectiveness in the sense of how you can strengthen health systems and educational systems, in order to make them sustainable. I may say some things that are already controversial with what Sibylle has said, but it still is my conviction that it is not a good idea if the G8 engage themselves in having projects added up in different countries, because that does not ensure country ownership. I'm convinced that the only way for African and also for Asian countries to get their heads above the water, is to get real ownership of their own development.

As I said, a key issue in ownership is democratic ownership and Sibylle raised already the question: "Should we start with the democratic part of the ownership, or should we start with the ownership?" I can tell you, dear colleagues, as a member of the European Parliament, I'm responsible for a report together with an African colleague from the Seychelles of the conference on aid effectiveness in Accra.

What our colleagues have told us is that unless the aid flows go through the budget, there will never be democratic ownership. So the only way in which to ensure at least a possibility of parliaments taking control of what is happening to the aid delivery, and ensuring that it's going

in strengthening the health care systems, ensuring that it's going to be invested in education, it has to be channelled through budgets, because budgets are voted by parliaments.

Now we all know that sometimes parliaments do not have the same power as the governments have, and sometimes the national development programs are developed only by the governments and hardly controlled by parliaments. It is also a reality that sometimes the budgets are almost imposed on our members of parliament, but what is the alternative? The alternative is that you would have bilateral aid that even doesn't pass through parliament, and then parliaments are powerless.

So I really think that we should try to strengthen the national systems and at the same time try to re-enforce and empower our colleagues in the National Parliaments, because they themselves can ensure that the money is channelled through sexual/reproductive health supplies, when it goes to health care that women are involved, which is key when you really want to deliver upon development goals as we believe in them.

So I think this is a big issue for discussion, and the only way in which to deal with brain drain, as many of our colleagues have mentioned, is in fact to strengthen the national health care system so that young people who are skilled do not feel obliged any more to go abroad. I was shocked when I heard in European Parliament that a city like Birmingham in the U.K. has more doctors and nurses from Malawi, than the whole of Malawi. The only way in which to tackle this problem is to strengthen the health care system itself so that nurses and doctors get proper payment and they can stay at home, because as you said you cannot stop them at the borders.

What goes for the National Parliament, strengthening them to empower them, goes also for the population. I'm most of the time focused very much on National Parliaments, because I know that when you have gatherings of NGOs and civil society, they focus very much on the role of civil society, and they are right to do so. But we should not forget that you do not have real democracies where parliaments don't have their say. Now we as parliamentarians should understand very clearly that our allies sometimes are in civil society, so its also in our interest to

strengthen women's organizations, to strengthen the NGOs in our societies and that's, I think, the only possible way to deal with democratic ownership.

Now there was a very interesting suggestion by our colleague from Ghana, to form a lobby group of parliamentarians. I hope that this in a certain way is what we are doing here in these two days, and I think that there should be a follow up. I can tell you that with the EPF, we developed a tool that is called Euro Mapping 2007, on which we will do a follow up, which clearly shows you where the delivery is upon population and development issue and what really the donor countries deliver, upon health strategies, educational strategies, sexual/reproductive health/rights.

Now it's good and fine that the EPF does such a thing, but what I meant with stressing the importance of having a follow-up mechanism on the G8 donors themselves, is that we would have a systematic approach on where the needs are, what the donors are doing for these needs, and what is still missing. This way each and every of us in parliament can clearly follow up on what is happening with not only the promises, but also the delivery, and that we can hold our governments responsible for what is happening.

For you and the partner countries, and us from the donor countries, I think this is of crucial importance. I'm thrilled with the discussion as it was delivered right now. I sincerely hope that this meeting will not become a sort of North/South fight on what have you done for us and what have you done for good delivery, but I hope we will be able to work in real partnership.

There's only one thing I would like to say to my colleague from Bolivia, I think that bio-fuels and bio-diesels are in fact a big issue, and I think that the European side is trying to take up its responsibility and will never allow that cars become more important than people. We will deliver upon our promises for Kyoto and the MDGs, but we really need the partnership to make the delivery efficient. I hope both sides of this chamber will effectively collaborate for a good outcome of this parliamentary conference.

[Chair]

We have had a very heated discussion for almost 2 hours, and I think it is this enthusiasm which is going to lead to the afternoon discussion, and to discussion tomorrow. So we will close the Introductory Session at this. Thank you very much.

SESSION 1
Interrelationship between Population and Climate Change

Chair:
Hon. Chieko Nohno
MP, Japan
Secretary-General of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)

SESSION 1
***The Human Impact on Climate Change – Population Growth,
Economic Activity & Countermeasures***

Dr. Gerald Stokes

President & CEO of Battelle Japan

[MC]

I would like to start the afternoon session. We would like to ask Hon. Chieko Nohno, the JFPF Secretary General to officiate this session. She used to be a registered nurse midwife, and she's the expert for the mother and child health. After serving as a professor at the Japan Red Cross Society's College of Nursing since 1988, she was elected to the House of Councillors in 1992. She participated in the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994 and even in its preliminary meeting in New York and she has continued to engage in activities. She also served as Minister of Justice under the Koizumi administration.

[Chair]

We are going to start this session of Interrelationship between Population and Climate Change, and we have two resource persons – one of whom is an expert on physics, and the other an expert in reproductive health.

First, I would like to introduce Dr. Gerald Stokes. He obtained Ph.D. in Astronomy and Astrophysics from the University of Chicago, and he is the President and CEO of Battelle-Japan, a joint venture of Battelle Memorial Institute of Columbus, Ohio and the Mitsubishi Corporation of Tokyo Japan. Prior to assuming his present position, he was Vice President for International Partnerships in the Laboratory Management Division of Battelle Memorial Institute, which is the world's largest independent consulting, research and development organization, and he has been involved in the research of environment and energy sector at Battelle. Dr. Stokes was also the founding director of the Joint Global Change Research Institute, a collaborative effort between the Pacific NW National Laboratory (PNNL) and the University of Maryland.

I'm sure many of you know Dr. Gill Greer, Director-General of IPPF. She has been very

active in promoting the health of mother and child. She obtained a Ph.D in Women's Literature, regarding female issues in literature. After serving as Assistant Vice Chancellor of Victoria University in Wellington, she served as Secretary-General at the New Zealand Family Planning Association (FPAID). IPPF, for which she serves as Secretary-General, has more than 180 member associations, and IPPF activities are done on a grassroots level in order to promote mother and child health.

These 2 individuals have completely different backgrounds, but we are lucky that we get to hear the perspectives of them regarding the theme of population issues and climate changes. Dr. Stokes will be giving us an analysis from a macro-perspective, and he will also try to address these issues from the industry perspective. And Dr. Greer will give us an update on the actual activities regarding the promotion of reproductive health.

[Dr. Gerald Stokes, Battelle Japan]

It's a great pleasure to be here today, and I want to thank the organizers for this invitation.

I've been studying climate change for 30 years, and I think that it's only recently that research has begun to focus on how climate change is affected by real people, and how real people are in fact affected by climate change. We have a tendency just to count the number of people, and say too many people create climate change. I think the picture is much more complicated than that, and my hope is that some of the pictures and images that I'm going to show today will promote the conversation about that in a constructive fashion.

This diagram points out the point of view that basically humans rarely interact with the climate system itself and that they largely influence the climate system through the systems that they have in fact created. It turns out that the climate

system's greatest impact on human populations is through those same systems. What I hope to do today is to give an initial discussion of what I



consider to be a very early conversation about how the details of population may be related to the study of climate.

Total population is in fact quite important. Earlier this morning we heard a conversation about the IPAT relationship with Paul Ehrlich, the other author of that paper was Barry Commoner. Basically the impact of society is a product of 3 things: the total number of people; what the people choose to do, in particular economic activity, GDP per capita; how they choose to do that, or the technology that is associated with it. We all know that a large number of people who want to have economic well-being – who do this on a fossil fuel based economy – can change the concentrations of CO₂ and therefore the overall climate system.

We know from the Framework Convention on Climate Change that if we want to stabilize the human influence on the climate system, we have to in fact stabilize the concentration of greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere. In order to do that, the current emissions profile must peak and then eventually decline essentially to zero.

One of the things that perhaps the scientific community, which I'm part of, does not do a good job of communicating is that these stabilization profiles imply something else. In fact, if you want to stabilize, for example, at 550 ppm which is roughly double the amount of CO₂ that was in the earth's atmosphere before industrialization in this century, there's a budget associated with this process. It's probably one of the best-known numbers in science that if you in fact pick a concentration, you can in fact presume what the carbon budget is going to be over the next 100 years. When it gets emitted, where it gets emitted is far less important than the total amount that gets emitted.

What happens when you start looking at this global budget is that you begin to realize that it's a little bit like your family budget; You have only so much that you can spend and there's only so much carbon that you can put into the atmosphere. What you also realize is that just like your family budget, you've made choices in the past that in fact spend your money for you. You may buy a house, and so you have to make payment on your house; You buy a car, so you have to provide for insurance and fuel in order to handle that car. Similarly, the same sorts of things happen inside of the climate system. We have made choices already – some are industrial choices, some are reproductive choices-and what we find is that those choices cast shadows into the future.

Total Population is important

- Practically all models of the impact of society on the climate are built around the Kaya Equation.

$$\text{Carbon Emissions} = \text{Population} \times \frac{\text{GDP}}{\text{Capita}} \times \frac{\text{Energy}}{\text{GDP}} \times \frac{\text{Carbon}}{\text{Energy}}$$

↑
Impact = Population X Activity X Technology

- Or the "IPAT" relationship of Barry Commoner

A good example of this is the United States. We conducted a study several years ago, and what we tried to do is calculate how much of the global carbon budget the United States was committed already to in fact consuming simply because of the coal-fired power plants that had already been built. No new construction. How much carbon would they emit before the existing power plants would naturally be retired? The answer to this was 25 billion tons of carbon, which is in fact a substantial fraction of the budget for the next 100 years. So it turns out that this decision casts a shadow into the

future.

We all know that coal is the most abundant of the fossil fuels and coal is the fuel that is not only building the new society inside of China, it's central to many other countries around the world and it's this shadow of a commitment that is in fact quite important. So we've cast a shadow into the future. We've already committed to use part of the budget from what we've done in the past.

This is similarly true for population. According to the work from Population Action International (PAI), and I want to thank Liz Leahy for that, in Ethiopia, which is a society that has a very large young population characteristic of being early in its demographic cycle, one of the interesting things is even if Ethiopia were to stabilize its population practices so that completed fertility was at replacement levels, it still is going to cast a long shadow.

By comparing the current youngest population in Ethiopia with the baby boom in Japan during this period of time, these individuals are all going to enter into a reproductive cycle, and so there's going to be a body of population generated by this level, these individuals who have yet to enter their reproductive cycle, that will continue to cause the Ethiopian population to grow. This is true of any of the countries that are in fact early in their cycle, they have good reproductive health practices, but the stabilization of their population can be many

decades away, simply because of the bulge that they have in the youth domain right now. That too has a ramification as these nations try to develop additionally, which takes me to the third point that I'd like to make.

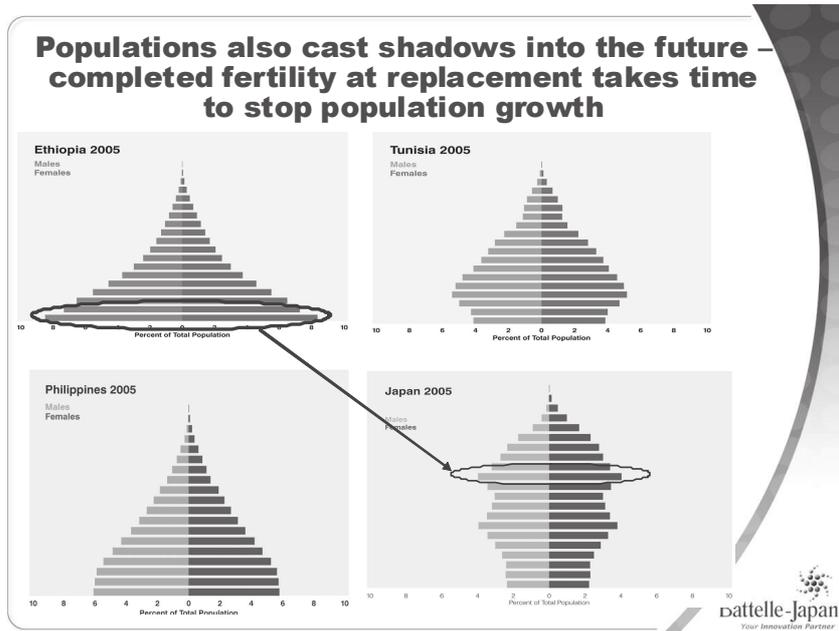
One of the critical and final factors is that the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) makes the point that as we stabilize climate, we preserve the right of nations to develop. That's one of the critical things, we want that development to be in fact sustainable, but if we look at the history of development we see another shadow because of that commitment of development.

There are three key phases in the stages of development. This is not usually what you find in the textbook, but it's what the data tells you as you look at the history of emissions from countries around the world. Basically there's a phase in development where you create the economy. This is the period of time where there is industrialization; there's an element that allows the country to export, there's an element that allows the country to build the infrastructure in order to support its population.

One of the interesting things I heard in China a couple of weeks ago was that in a high-rise apartment building, of which there are many going in China, takes approximately 80 kg of steel per square meter to construct. This means that industrialization is not just for export, it's also for the citizens themselves. That is what happens as the economy gets created – the

wealth of the nation is used to benefit the average citizen. So you begin to see the rise of the middle class and it's the claim of the citizens on the economic benefit that comes from development inside the country itself.

We see this in many of the developing countries. There's some in Africa that are very rich in terms of natural resources and much of the debate is how does that economy benefit citizenry? That's part of the natural evolution of



development inside of a country. Eventually you see a growth of environmental concerns and more of an environmental ethic and increasing energy efficiency. What happens is these can happen in parallel and increasingly we're beginning to see all 3 of these playing out in China, but the fact of the matter is, they have very real consequences in carbon emissions.

During the industrial development of Japan, the per capita emissions increased and then gradually stabilized about the time that the bubble burst, and the Japanese economy began to make more of a transition towards more of a consumer economy than it had been previously. This was driven by two things: one was the increased use of automobiles, and the second was Japan's decision to use coal for electricity, which it had not heavily done prior to that particular point.

If we go to Korea we can see an economy that's about 20 years behind, at least in terms of carbon emissions. In comparison with China, we realize that China is still very much on the increase of emissions stage of development associated with the industrialization and the build up of the economy itself.

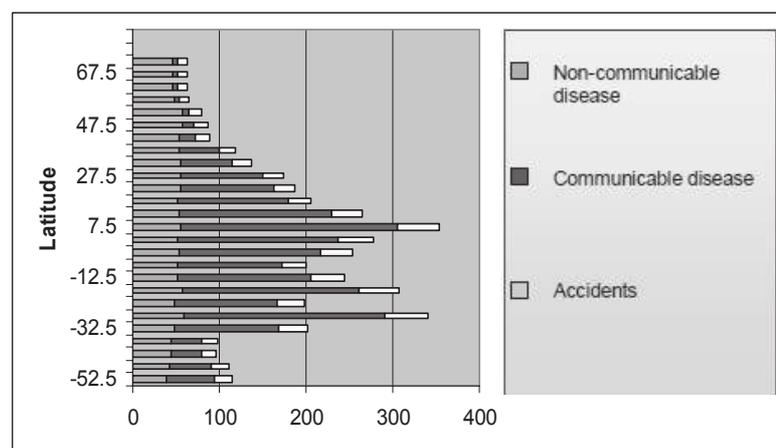
So we have 3 shadows that are made because of the choices we have already made about technology, how we generate power or how we use transportation. There are shadows that are cast by the history of reproductive health and the size of the population. Then third, there is a shadow because we have a commitment to development. Part of our challenge is that we can change this dynamic of development by way of things like the clean development mechanism which are focused on making that happen.

The critical point to remember is that much of what we have in civilization, agriculture, our clothing, the way we construct things, our transportation systems, are adaptations to climate. We have building standards that are tied to whether our country is warm or cold, we grow certain crops because they grow better under the conditions that we have, so much of civilization is in fact an adaptation to climate. The difficulty that we have right now is that while we are

adapting to climate, we are doing things that are going to change the baseline of the climate system itself. The question is: "How do we think about that, and how does that affect people?" As the climate changes, the systems too must change.

One of the ways to look at this is through Richard Moss' theory. He is currently at WWF, used to be with the US Global Change Research Program, and with our institute, he says that you really need to divide impacts into 2 parts. One of those is, what is sensitive to changes in climate: our settlement, the way in which food is put together, health, ecosystems, and water, are sensitive parts of the society. What do we use if we want to adapt to that? If we want to make sure that the impact of the climate system is not adversely affecting us, what are the resources that we have? Typically, many of those things are embodied in our economy, in people, and in the nature of our environment itself.

What Richard and his colleagues are now trying to put together, though they are still in the early stages, are the indicators of sensitivity and indicators of adaptive capacity that come along with that. One of the early results came from this. As we talked about earlier today, many of the countries that are sensitive to the climate system are in Africa. I think that if we had more countries of Africa in the analysis, we would in fact see a larger number of the African countries that are sensitive to the climate system. But the critical point is this suggests that countries that have a difficult time adapting to the current climate, currently beset by floods, droughts and weather conditions that make a significant disruption to their economies, are also those most sensitive to changes in future climate. If your economy and your people are sensitive to



the climate now, they're going to be sensitive to a changing climate as well. With that, we can go and take the next step.

How are specific countries vulnerable? Who within the society is in fact the most vulnerable? Where might the resilience come from? I'm going to take a demographic and health perspective on this in keeping with the period. This is a set of questions which I think are going to be the most pressing questions over the next 10 years in climate research and perhaps for as long as we and our children are worrying about this.

There are lots of elements of vulnerability in the climate system where we're sensitive. The impacts on health have been well documented by the IPCC, i.e. where you discuss the spread of disease as a direct impact, indirect impacts through changes in availability of nutrition, and impact on sustainability. An interesting thing that I think is starting to emerge is that we're beginning to understand how to look at natural disasters, whether they in fact are caused by climate or not, as a mechanism for understanding how adaptive the society is. My belief is that we can look at the earthquake in China and we can look at the tsunami, as well we can look at the typhoon in Myanmar or we can look at Katrina under those circumstances in order to understand the adaptive capacity.

Let me take an example of this, and there's some fairly provocative data which states that as the world warms, we'll start to see a spread of disease. The IPCC and a number of researchers in many of the countries represented here have done tremendous work on this. One of the studies says that the higher the average temperature the lower the life expectancy. With lower temperatures, in fact you have less disease.

If you look at the details of the distribution of disease and causes of death, it fits. On this diagram the blue are chronic diseases, like cancer and heart disease, the red represents communicable and infectious diseases. Basically infectious diseases move more readily through a warm climate because if the climate warms, the vectors of disease can expand into these areas because they have a new habitat and are able to survive outside of their original range.

So the question is, what are you going to do about it? What we did to understand resilience, was go to the World Health Organization Global Burden of Disease's dataset. We examined all of these parameters in order to understand which ones were the greatest predictor of the global burden of disease. The interesting thing is that temperature, while it was one of the variables, was not one of the good predictors. The real indicators inside of an individual country are:

- Per capita income in purchasing power parity
- Education (adult literacy)
- Medical Care (index of immunization, oral rehydration therapy and medical care at birth)
- Water (access to clean water/ sanitation)

We all know that the growth in adult literacy is the growth in the education of women. Medical care, immunization, oral re-hydration therapy for those affected by intestinal diseases and medical care at birth, these are exactly the things we've been hearing about all morning as in fact being important along the way, and then of course the access to clean water. Again, temperature was not important.

The lesson that I take from this is that on the surface, temperature appears to be important and probably will promote the transmission of disease, but the resilience comes from the availability of basic services. Those basic services are the part of development and are exactly those basic services which on which the MDGs concentrate.

From my perspective, the research agenda that lies ahead of us in terms of increasing resilience is that we first need to act on the things that are obvious. That is development, because it is in large part an adaptation to the climate system and therefore a source of resilience, and the MDGs are the currently agreed set of actions to do that.

Secondly, I think we need to understand how the kinds of dislocations that are going to come from the climate events of the future are going to effect people. We know that there are predictions that the annual official refugee rate, which is estimated at 2 million persons per year, is expected to increase by at least an order of magnitude.

How does the social infrastructure change? Society depends on lots of elements of capital. Many of these “capitals” are the infrastructures associated with society. We already have a tendency to worry about things like natural capital, our financial capital, our physical capital, but what about human capital, health and education? What happens in a refuge camp? Health care services are among the first to go and education goes away under the same circumstances. How do we recreate these new societies in the wake of dislocating disasters and then how do we, as a human group, provide those assets along the way? I think that all of these capitals are at risk, but I think sometimes

we don’t necessarily understand how important these are. The kinds of things the MDGs focus on are in terms of doing resilience.

Finally, I think that it’s not just a question of how many people are there. I think it’s a question of what the national circumstances are, what the aspirations of the nation are and I think logic tells us that some countries may be more vulnerable than others, but I think the message that we have is that because our current society is built and adapted to a past climate, and we’re about to enter into a new climate, the reality is that none of us are really going to be immune to the changes. Thank you.

SESSION 1

Reproductive Health and Climate Change: A Case Study

Dr. Gill Greer

Director-General
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

Introduction

Distinguished friends and colleagues, it gives me great pleasure to be able to address you today in the lead up to the G8 Summit. In particular, I would like to thank Madame Nohno for chairing this session. She has always been a keen advocate and supporter of sexual and reproductive health and rights. She inspires us all and if the scientists of the world could learn to clone people, I would like to advocate for a Madame Nohno in every parliament of the world!

I have been asked to discuss reproductive health in the context of climate change and natural resource management. I would like to thank you for having this discussion. As the world becomes more interested in environmental issues – and where events like the G8 and the US presidential election are focusing more and more on climate change – it is one that is necessary and timely.

From the beginning of time, human activity and environmental impact have been intimately connected. While this connection may seem obvious, like humanity itself, the situation is complex; it varies from the global to the regional, from the regional to the national, and from the national to the community, and requires a sophisticated analysis and response.

The growing debate about population rise and environmental degradation often feels like the elephant in the room, especially for organizations that adhere to a strictly rights-based agenda. It is difficult to talk about, yet to address some of the most pressing global challenges to human welfare and environmental sustainability, we must start to have the discussion.

As a Japanese government official said in a recent letter to IPPF: “There is no doubt that climate change is one of the most challenging issues for mankind because of its character

being linked to so many other issues such as energy, development, security, health, food, the economy and so on, with so many stakeholders involved. We can definitely say that a more multilateral approach is needed in order to reach a resolution”. This is why it is so important to involve civil society in any discussions. Decisions taken by governments should and must be infused by the voices of the people.

Coming from a large, community-based NGO like IPPF, I will try to highlight some of the work we are doing to bring reproductive health services to the poorest and most marginalized communities in the world. IPPF’s clients are the people who are often the most vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change and environmental degradation. Yet, ironically, they are also the people least at fault and with the least control over global warming and the CO₂ emissions of industrial nations.

Many of them live in countries that are experiencing rapid population growth which itself is impacting on critical resources (for food, water, employment and health) and is proving to be a significant challenge to sustainability.

The global and the local; the two cannot be separated, and no solution can hope to reverse global warming and bring environmental sustainability without addressing both.

Negative impact of climate change on reproductive health

Environmental degradation and climate change are having a profound impact on the lives of individuals and families in many countries, and will continue to do so, especially in the poorest regions.

Millions of people with barely enough resources to feed, clothe and shelter themselves and their children are being forced to adapt their behaviors and lifestyles as natural resources are depleted in order to survive. Climate change is

not only driving migration, it is increasing poverty and gender inequality and compromising health.

1. Water

Clean, drinkable water is an indispensable resource for every one of us. It is a vital and necessary ingredient to sustain life – from hydrating 6.1 billion people every day, to growing crops, to enabling safe births. However, climate change means that accessible, clean sources of water are becoming scarce.

In northern Kenya, the increased frequency of drought means that women are walking greater distances to collect clean water, often ranging from 10 to 15km a day. In their journeys, women are confronted with personal security risks, including robbery and sexual violence, which puts them at risk of unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion and HIV/AIDS. In addition to the difficulty in maintaining a steady supply of clean water, droughts like those in Kenya present other serious challenges.

IPPF operates programmes in many regions to empower girls and women, and to increase gender equality. These efforts are compromised when families keep girls at home to carry water or secure other resources to care for the family.

When girls are kept out of school, they suffer – they are less able to engage in society, have fewer economic opportunities, they marry earlier and have more children and at an earlier age. Young women between 15 and 19 years of age face the highest risk of dying of pregnancy-related causes of any age group.

Uneducated girls and women are also less informed about how to protect their own sexual health and don't know how to exercise their rights.

While water is becoming a scarcity in some areas, in others the sea level is rising and this too can reduce access to clean water as pollution penetrates existing sanitation systems. Researchers at Imperial College London have found that saline intrusion in the River Ganges from rising sea levels caused by climate change is an increasing threat to the health of communities, and it is only going to get worse with climate change.

Increased salinity of drinking water can increase hypertension rates. It is therefore no wonder that large numbers of pregnant women in the coastal areas are being diagnosed with pre-eclampsia, eclampsia and hypertension.

Shifts in temperature, rainfall patterns and sea levels may change the nature of epidemics of vector-borne diseases, such as malaria. Carried by mosquitoes which breed in stagnant water, malaria may become more prevalent where water sources increase. It is a fact that pregnant women are especially vulnerable to malaria which can lead to miscarriage, illness and even death. Increased instances of malaria will impact the health of adults and children, undermining hard-won development gains.

2. Land use/Agriculture – Migration

As land becomes over-used, the soils become barren and the result is less arable land which means less food. As people search for fertile farmland, more forests will be cut down and people will need to search further for firewood and fuel.

Subsistence farming will become a less viable choice for women, and their families, so they will need to migrate to urban areas for employment. As a result, the number of internally displaced persons will rise and these people will face higher risks to their health.

Women may go to the city in search of work in shops or markets, but faced with high levels of unemployment and gender discrimination, many of them will have no alternative but to enter the field of sex work. Sex workers face a high risk of unwanted pregnancy, violence and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV.

IPPF has seen this pattern unfold at first hand and runs many programmes to address the sexual and reproductive health needs of sex workers. One such example is the IPPF Japan Trust Fund programme in Kampala, Uganda, called Breaking the Ice. This provides vital health services to women, many of whom are migrants from rural Uganda, who came to the city seeking work but who found they had no other alternative but to engage in sex work.

3. Emergency / Disaster Situations

It is a fact that women, pregnant mothers and children are often more at risk of severe

climatic events like the flooding in Bangladesh or the Asian tsunami in 2004, when 250,000 people were killed and hundreds of thousands more were left homeless and without the basic necessities. Poor communities were hit particularly hard. The health service infrastructure was destroyed in many areas. Hospitals and clinics were lost, doctors and midwives died or went missing. In these situations, IPPF's Member Associations in India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the Maldives responded quickly in the aftermath.

Working together with other aid agencies, our Member Associations' health service providers and volunteers ensured that pregnant women had access to delivery and emergency obstetric services and that others had access to family planning.

Increasingly, more of our resources are devoted to the needs of displaced people fleeing their homes or communities from the effects of natural disasters and climate change. Planning for these is impossible – as the last few months have shown us with emergency situations in China and Bangladesh.

Climate Change, Resources & Inequity

There is an inherent inequality at the heart of climate change. If we accept the impact that climate change is having on people's lives – that it forces people to leave their homes and communities and restrict their access to the basic necessities – then we must also accept that this change affects the world's poorest the most. Living in rural areas and urban slums, the poorest billion people are highly exposed to climate change threats for which they carry negligible responsibility, an inequity to add to others.

Perversely, the carbon footprint of the poorest 1 billion people on the planet (just over 16% of the world's population) is only about 3% of the world's total footprint. It is a rich irony that the richest industrialized nations, which have contributed the most to environmental damage, are those best able to adapt and protect themselves and their populations from the worst affects of climate change.

The consumption levels of people in developed countries is not decreasing; consumption patterns and the environmental impact of people

in transitional and developing countries are gradually increasing – particularly among the middle class.

The outcome document of the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) acknowledges that “African countries have generally been extremely vulnerable to the negative effects of climate change, including increased environmental degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, and droughts and desertification”. It also notes the link between human security and climate change.

The TICAD outcome document states that African countries continue to be inadequately equipped in terms of their mitigation and adaptation capacities. In 2007, the Government of Japan made an impressive gesture of intent with their Cool Earth 50 initiative.

Unmet need

Developing countries have the fewest resources and are home to the largest population of young people. Worldwide, there are over one billion young people between 10 and 24 years of age, many of them without education, prospects, or even knowledge to make choices that are critical to them and the planet.

There is a huge unmet need for family planning and other sexual and reproductive health services that will enable these people to choose if, when and how many children to have, to have safe and healthy pregnancies and deliveries, and to protect themselves from STIs and HIV/AIDS. This need is only going to increase.

Today, 95% of population growth is occurring in developing countries. The UN Population Division estimates that by 2025, there will be more than 284 million women of reproductive age in sub-Saharan Africa alone.

The most vulnerable people already live in countries where the health services are under pressure to prevent and control ill health. Climate change is making matters worse by putting new stresses on already struggling public health systems. Health will be the front line in the fight against these changes, and the sexual and reproductive health of many millions of women and men will be put at risk.

Interventions that Link Community;

Conservation and SRH are the way forward

Many communities are now linking resource management with better public health, including increased access to sexual health services.

In 2001, a number of small grant projects (with funding from FPA International Development) were implemented in Kiribatu and Vanuatu – both of which have young, rapidly growing populations – to implement reproductive health interventions through conservation and agriculture projects. The final evaluation of the projects found that people in Kiribati and Vanuatu had begun to make the connection between family size and the quality of their local environment.

A Rights-Based Approach

We were a pioneer in bringing a rights-based approach to SRH services and our experience shows us that when women have the information they need, they will make decisions that are good for themselves and their families.

Approaches that prioritize fundamental human rights are the best for encouraging adaptation to climate change.

Policies that:

- promote equitable growth and the diversification of livelihoods,
- expand opportunities in health and education,

- provide social insurance for vulnerable populations,
- fight child marriage,
- improve disaster management,
- support post emergency recovery,
- increase access to information and services for sexual and reproductive health and rights,

will enhance the resilience of poor people facing climate risks. That is why planning for climate change adaptation should be seen not as a new branch of public policy but as an integral part of wider strategies for poverty reduction and human development. It must involve those who are most affected, through civil society engagement, at the planning and implementation stages.

Summary – Conclusions

We must work together to ensure justice to access to water, to sanitation, to development, investing in programmes that bring about equity for women, for young people.

Together, parliamentarians, this is where civil society and community based organizations like IPPF can make a difference – by working with our national governments and parliamentarians. Because, as New Zealand writer Robin Hyde said, “Under the sea, all lands are joined together”, we can make a difference locally and globally if we are unified in our approach and purpose.

SESSION 1

Comments from G8

Hon. Françoise Castex

MEP, France

We all know that climate change is having a great impact on society and also on the economy. These are the results that we can predict from quantitative and qualitative point of view, but above all is that it has a great influence on population and humankind must start to adapt. As Dr. Stokes mentioned before, humankind must face and overcome this challenge of climate change. The world is facing 2 challenges: one is that we need to mitigate the emission of CO₂ and these are mainly the targets imposed upon the developed countries. It is the developed countries that bear the burden of mitigating CO₂.

Several million years ago, human beings appeared on earth and many times they had to adapt themselves to the numerous changes. Those who could not adapt to change disappeared. So, what is to be done in face of today's challenge? The result is clear – people are looking for means and tools to adapt to the changes that we are facing such as flood or shortage of water. But are there means for adaptation? I think that in a sense there is some inequality.

The 2007-2008 UN report says that there is a village in Maasbommel in the south of the Netherlands, which is facing rising water levels and flooding, so they have invested a great deal in creating 37 new prototype houses that can float in the case of a flood. As the foundation of these prototype houses is in a vacuum, when there is a flood, the houses can float on that water.

The village of Hoc Thanh in Vietnam, in the Mekong Delta, is also facing the danger of flood, and they are taking measures such as making levees, planting mangroves, and building houses whose floor is elevated. Donors are also providing assistance to save lives when a flood occurs. For example, they distribute life vests to the residents and also provide them with swimming lessons. Some of you may think that

those examples are jokes, but they do portray an actual picture of the situation.

There is expanding inequality amongst people on the earth in terms of the size of the risk and the size of the resources they can use and people have differing consciousness towards this crisis feeling. In Europe, people are worried about financial risks. IPCC has issued a warning in Europe, which recommend that the winter sports industry, like skiing, adapt to climate change. City planning experts are advised to install air conditioners, but those warnings are far tamer compared with the risks faced by developing nations.

So the message we want to issue developed countries and G8 countries, is number one – this climate change undermines the international efforts to mitigate poverty. Because of climate change, the MDGs achievement will be delayed, the process that has just started will be reversed and the situation will get worse, and poverty and malnutrition might become serious again. Towards 2080, more than 600 million people are estimated to face hunger, and the number of people who will suffer from water shortage is expected to be 2 billion. People who will be infected with malaria will be more than 400 million. When temperature goes up by 3 or 4 degrees, 300 million people will be refugees.

These figures show that there is a human catastrophe. UNDP has sponsored a meeting in Bali and according to their report, many areas are endangered such as Saharan Africa, the Sahel, the Mediterranean, Caribbean countries, India, China, the Andes and the Amazon. All those areas are facing danger and according to this UN report, taking measures against climate change is equal to taking actions for peace. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has talked about it and it was also taken up in the UN Security Council. The UN Security Council has issued a report on climate change as an issue of security.

Climate change is not just an issue limited to environment or economics, but it is an issue of development and also an issue related to peace. Therefore, even for people in developed countries, it is a challenge of moral and ethical challenge. In the previous century, we saw genocides and crimes against humanity, but related international laws were enacted. In the 21st century, new concept also should be reflected on the international law, that is, such concepts as responsibility towards protecting the environment and the areas who had disaster by climate change or people who became refuge by those natural disaster. G8 countries cannot be immune from the responsibility of those problems and they have to promote new conscience towards the new century. Thank you.

Discussion — SESSION 1

[Chair]

Thank you. The time has come to open the discussion to the floor. Please give us your country and name.

[Hon. Tshililo Michael Masutha MP, South Africa]

Earlier on I proposed that one of the central challenges is skills, or skills development, but as I think, I ask if I have pinpointed the most central challenge. As I look at the total aggregate of the issues that have been raised since this morning, I believe that we all agree they are at the core of the problem, but is it possible to disaggregate that core into 2 main columns: those that are the core causes, and those that are the core effects. And I ask myself, “What in my view would I see as the core cause?” The Member of Parliament from Germany earlier on alluded to the political issues in the developing world, especially in Africa, relating to democracy, corruption, etc. Is politics ultimately the core cause or the core challenge?

Then I look at the question of economic inequalities, intra- and inter-country, or intra- and inter-region, for example, North vs. South. The current inequalities in the global trading system, which have a direct effect on the ability of the developing world to develop at a pace that would enable it to meet some of its socio-

economic challenges, is one of the issues which I think we need to zoom into.

Pardon me for sounding a bit controversial or skeptical, but a colleague from Zambia earlier on referred to the United States gradually gravitating towards recognizing global climate change as one of the central challenges that it must confront and acknowledge. Is it because of Katrina or is it because of other imperatives? It was unbelievable to see the leading world economy appearing to be unable to deal with a disaster that effect its own people, and you ask yourself, “Why?” We need to reflect on what the real challenges are that confront the world today, and I think that economics, increasingly to me, becomes the central issue, and we need to disaggregate it and possibly link it to politics and discuss how central that is to addressing many of the socio-economic challenges that we have discussed today. Thank you.

[Chair]

Next, Nigeria.

[Hon. Saudatu Sani MP, Nigeria]

My concern is that we all understand that climatic change, human development, sustainable development, and reproductive health all need funding for us to keep it in the limelight. We all need money. The African nations concluded their meeting in Egypt and I would have loved to see them, apart from focus on Mugabe, also focus on what they will do about global health, climate change, and food security so that the African nations themselves will say, “This is what we are able to do, and this is the funding gap.” However, since they didn’t focus on that, we parliamentarians have now said, “Let the G8 meeting look at Africa as brothers and sisters, and quickly bridge the funding gap between HIV/AIDS, sexual/reproductive health and other communicable diseases, which are prevalent in Africa, which also add as a challenge to Africa’s development and global development at large”.

Again, I also want to add that we cannot look at maternal mortality outside malnutrition. While African countries are working hard to attain the MDG 4 and 5, the challenge of poverty and malnutrition is also added to the financial demand. So these are some areas that we want to see the G8 focus on: funding for child education, funding for nutrition and then looking at

sexual/reproductive health as a right to women, even though women cannot access sexual/reproductive services without being educated. Education can provide a very good platform whereby women can have a choice and have a right. Just providing the drugs is not enough without the education. The facilities might be there, but if the woman is not educated, she may not go for it. I look at this as a three-way intervention: education, poverty reduction, and nutrition. Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Thank you. Next is Senegal.

[Hon. Elhadji Malick Diop MP, Senegal]

What I would like to say is very simple and straightforward.

I think we all agree with Dr. Gill Greer. Family planning is a right. Currently it is important that we translate that into reality. It's also the same with the population issues, and we have to strive to realize these matters. What can parliamentarians do in such context? I would like to appeal to you all here to draft some guidelines so that parliamentarians can act. We need a guideline for such activities in order to raise social awareness, mobilize people who are relevant to these issues and direct us in what actions you can put to practice on the actual scene. If there are such guiding principles, it's always easy to build on it.

As I mentioned earlier, women's status in the society is one of the major issues. Many women still do not have a right or choice. Often women are at the mercy of violence or child marriage. Women are also overwhelmed by house chores which is a huge burden on her. It is unfair that women have to shoulder all these burdens. How can we solve these issues, and what can parliamentarians do to rectify such situations?

Also, in Senegal, they say that the efforts to fight poverty have been undermined by climate change. Because of climate change, the number of livestock has declined. Economic benefits of women depended on how much livestock she retains, and she has to bring along her livestock as dowry when she marries. Especially in northern part of the west coast of Africa, livestock is diminishing and women are losing their assets. In such a situation, our efforts face difficulties.

[Hon. Nancy Shukri MP, Malaysia]

I'm very much concerned about the human impact on climate change, because here I would like to focus on the roles of women in bringing change to the whole society. We have been talking about empowering women, and I would like to emphasize more on Malaysia. We have 2 sectors of women here: one, is the group of educated women and the other is the not very well-educated group. Some are very illiterate, many of whom belong to the villages. I would advocate on empowering women, both the educated and non-educated ones, because they all play very significant role in bringing change to the homes and bringing change to the whole climate, because everything starts from home.

The women in rural villages are of great influence on the economic activities in their areas. Now, they do not have much knowledge and some of them are not educated at all, so it's very difficult to get information to reach them. They are the ones who will be conveying information to their children and their children's children. These are all interrelated. The children whom they have brought up will be the ones who will practice the traditional way of living and these are the ones who will be helping out with the agricultural activities in their areas. If they are not educated, it's not easy to bring information to them.

The government is very concerned about education. The government has the social obligation to build schools in the rural areas. In my constituency, though this does not represent the majority of the country, this is quite an isolated group. I saw there are few children belonging to "standard one". Just 3 of them in standard one, and 2 of them in standard 2, and I asked them why there are so few belonging to each class. It's because their husbands have to stay away from home to look for jobs elsewhere and their agricultural land is not very fertile, so the yielding of the crops are not very good. Also, because the water had been polluted it doesn't help much with the agricultural products. So that's where the role of the women, who are uneducated in the rural areas need to be helped out.

On the overall empowering of women, which includes NGOs and also those who are educated, I see that the awareness on environmental aspects and climate change is not that high and I

believe it is a very good effort for us to invest in a lot of programs for these groups of women. I believe if the women are educated and we empower them, it will help a lot towards the limiting the effects of climate change. That's all, thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Bolivia, India, Canada, Nigeria.

[Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo MP, Bolivia]

I am concerned about the global economic and social system. For example, what is the impact of the privatization of basic services and natural resources on the sexual/reproductive health and rights of woman in the developing countries? Freedom of choice for women is only possible when there are realistic possibilities and facilities; that means access to contraceptives and information. Of course, its very important for us parliamentarians to give information by making laws, but few people know about these rights, especially women and young girls.

I also agree with Hon. Castex on the effects of climate change on women. We have many natural disasters and of course we need to find solutions, especially for food security and infectious disease such as malaria.

Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. India, please.

[Hon. Paul Sebastian MP, India]

We all agree that the accumulated evidence makes it increasingly plain that environmental problems have been the problems of development all along. Right to development is a human right and it is stated in the United Nations declaration. Dr. Greer was mentioning India's commitment to development. You all know that after centuries of deprivation and poverty, India is now slowly emerging. India's evident economic development is there. The average common man has an opportunity to have a car of his own, a flat of his own, air-conditioning and the middle class have the capacity to buy grains and have a good meal with their children. Now the developed countries, especially the United States and Japan, are suggesting that India is purchasing all the grain,

resulting in global grain shortage. That is the case with climate change and also global warming.

I would like to repeat that India is committed to the Rio Declaration of 1992, Agenda 21. Agenda 21 makes it clear that it is the duty of ordinary common people to save this planet, to take effective measures for saving the planet from global warming and climate change. But my first point is how the common man will understand the implications of this global warming or climate change, what steps he should take in his ordinary life to prevent this disaster. So that is the problem of language. We all speak about such words as global warming and climate change, but we have to ensure the effective participation of ordinary people in that global action. Our deliberations and our decisions should be unveiled to ordinary people in their own language; how they can change their lifestyle, or how they can take preventive steps to prevent this disaster.

One other thing is that the right to development is a basic, human right. We cannot deprive developing countries or poor countries from effecting development. Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you. Canada, then Niger.

[Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP, Canada]

Thank you all for your fine presentations. Dr. Stokes, I have 2 brief questions for you.

If you were the Minister of Finance or the Environment from a Western country that will go unnamed, what is a more efficient tool to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels, a cap-in-trade system, or a tax shifting system?

My second question is what is more, should we be moving towards electric cars, if you factor in all of the energy costs to make an electric car, including the changes in batteries, or is it better for us to stick with some of the more modern internal combustion engines that have come on the market? Thank you.

[Hon. Amadou Haradou MP, Niger]

First, Ms. Françoise Castex, I would like to express my appreciation for your presentation about climate change. Unlike your examples of 2 villages, there are refugees in my entire

country because of water shortage. They have to move from one place to another in search for water in Niger. You have to walk long distances in order to get water.

You talked about women's education and health. It is true that development and education are closely related to each other, so we need to carry out educational programs. There are laws that have been enacted a long time ago in African and Arab countries, but the problem is whether they are enforced and how to make people abide by the provisions of the law. So laws and rights are great, but what's even better is enforcing and implementing law.

In African nations we don't have the framework in which we can implement and enforce the laws. We don't have enough land for agricultural production. If developed countries have enough farming land, then perhaps we can have offshore farming – shipping the farmland from domestic to overseas. If you have enough space for farming, why can't we shift the farming overseas? So perhaps we can think of relocation of farming from one nation to another.

Also we have to look at population issues from a global point of view, but each country has its own unique problem. The population issue should be taken up as a global issue, but we have to deal with it on a case-by-case basis. Of course it is important for women to make their own decision, but there's one thing we should not forget in these approaches. In my country more women than men want to have a lot of children because it will be easier for them if they have more children to do the housework. One of the reasons why women have to take care of the households is because many men have fled as refugees, so women and children who are left behind. The situation differs from one country to another.

[Chair]

European Parliament, please.

[Hon. Anne Van Lancker MEP, Belgium]

First of all, thanks to all speakers for very rich contributions making the linkage between human development and climate change. Thanks Gill for linking the P-word [population] to the rights-based approach – it was very helpful. And thank you also Dr. Stokes for explaining to us

that resilience increases with development, and investments in human resources.

Now let me put it a little bit black-and-white; If I say that societies who contribute the most to climate change would be rich developed countries and maybe emerging countries, and on the other hand, the societies that are most affected by climate change are the Southern countries, the least developed countries, and in these countries are the most vulnerable populations. Let me pose a provocative question to Dr. Greer and to Dr Stokes: Could you give me good reason to convince rich donor countries to increase resilience in partner countries and invest in people, which go beyond arguments of social justice but would be the kind of selfish argument you can convince a rich country to invest in increasing the resilience of a developing country? Let me put it like this: What would be the "Al Gore argument" to convince the G8 to invest in the South, and to link population issues with climate change? Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you. Last one is Zambia, please.

[Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa MP, Zambia]

My question is actually very much related to the issue raised by my colleague from the European Parliament. I want to refer to the presentation by Dr. Stokes. It's clear that more developed countries and the G8 themselves have had greater impact on climate change and its adverse impact, because of industrial and economic activity in the past and even now. Some of the poor, developing countries have done very little to precipitate negative effects on climate change. Yet, all countries in the world have to pay for these, through the negative effects and in fact they have either to divert their little resources or suffer cuts in whatever aid they were going to get. The poorer they are, the more susceptible they are to the negative effects of climate change.

The question then is: "How can we make those who are responsible for climate change bear more of the cost?" We are concerned about population, development, maternal health, child health and all these other issues which need resources, but then we are now talking about issues of climate change which actually also need resources. To what extent can powerful

countries be prepared to bear responsibility for some of this? Until recently, some preferred to put the economic gain of industry in front of climate change; some people had abrogated the Kyoto Protocol. So what do we have to do?

[Chair]

Thank you so much for your opinions. So our three speakers will comment. First, Dr. Stokes.

[Dr. Gerald Stokes, Battalle Japan]

First, I'd like to respond to the question from Canada. Part of the problem that we have with climate change and choosing a mechanism for controlling carbon emissions is that climate change is not happening in a vacuum. The question is, what are you paying for and what are you going to get? One could argue for cap-and-trade, one could argue for taxes, one could argue for absolute prohibitions or technological fixes as well. My sense is that each country is different under the circumstances. I think one of the great benefits of Kyoto is that they've in fact learned about it at this stage, and I think that one of the big issues that you have is that each nation has got to figure out how to factor climate change into their long-term energy situation.

I think that Japan has historically had a strong integrated energy policy that factors in many things and is fairly flexible. I think Germany has had a very directed programme towards renewable energy, which at some cost has made them a leader in solar energy. It would be surprising, you would not pick Germany as being the leader in solar energy development, but that's a choice they made. I think that each nation has the obligation to have a plan and to have a path to move forward. The economic efficiency is going to be effected by the other things that are going on. Cap-and-trade has been proposed in the United States because it's worked.

The second question is: "What would I say to the rich nations?" I think the question from South Africa was probably the most interesting answer to that question. My first answer is that the world is self-insured; no one is going to come from Mars and bail us out. The fact of the matter is that rich countries end up bearing costs, or try to bear costs associated with natural disasters; they try to take these things on. I think they have no idea what the frequency and severity of those things in fact are going to be.

The great tragedy of Katrina was absolutely predicted. The richest nation on the earth knew it had a disaster and could not do anything. So, my argument is that we're self-insured, and we're all in this together, and we have to do the things that are necessary in order to move forward, but our ability to be blind to the set of things that are manifestly obvious is incredible in that regard.

I think it comes to the last point about how to make those responsible pay attention. My group was one of the groups that did an economic analysis, which really was one of the fundamental motivations for the clean development mechanism. The idea is that if you look at the global economy, what you want to do is you would like to deal with the reduction of emissions in the most cost-effective way. So you do where its the least expensive, when its the least expensive and that's what the CDM (Clean Development Mechanism) was supposed to be. CDM was supposed to be a mechanism not to inhibit development, but to make the development so that it didn't cast an improper shadow into the future. It's not obvious that that is what's happened, maybe because the scheme is not large enough at this point, but I think that's the critical issue for each of the nations.

The representative from Senegal asked an important question about parliamentarians. I have been impressed in the places that I have been in the world, as to how parliaments can bring together their people to create national plans. We've heard from representatives from the European Union and some of the countries there, that they like to go through the budget process in order to make these things happen. I think that's part of the capacity that has to be created. Individual nations need to have their plans and the rich nations need to support the plans for legitimate development at the same time as curtailing their emissions.

It doesn't make any difference where the CO₂ is emitted. There's only so much you can put in the atmosphere on the way to some sort of global change disaster in this process. And so figuring out, the rich nations need to take a process; they've focused appropriately on making their own first steps, but we now have to make some global steps. We have to realize that fossil fuels are a great bounty, these are something that we can use and the point is how are we going to use

them to bridge ourselves to a more sustainable future, and how are we going to do that together.

[Dr. Gill Greer, Director-General, IPPF]

I think what we really need is a comprehensive approach to these issues. With relation to questions about reproductive health, not just as a right – what I was trying to say also was a factor in slowing down population growth. I absolutely agree that if people cannot access services – if there are no services provided, no commodities provided – then it is no good having the right if you can't exercise it.

I think we need to remind ourselves that 179 governments committed themselves 15 years ago to providing those services, those supplies and parliamentarians and civil society need to hold their feet to the fire and remind them of those promises and demonstrate these by using good evidence. There is plenty around that if you do make that investment, it will have massive economic gains, as well as gains for individuals, their families, and communities. For example in Africa, if countries carried out their commitments under the Maputo Plan of Action and the Abuja Declaration, then that would address many of the issues.

To Senegal, I think some of the things parliament can do and should do is they should monitor policies and legislation. Three, insist on disaggregated budgets so they can see that money is being spent on a whole range of issues including reproductive health, and women's education, literacy and empowerment. And child health, infant health – if children don't die, women and their husbands won't feel they have to have as many children. To involve civil society to make sure that when there are national development plans being drawn up, you ask for civil society to be there to remind everybody that reproductive health should be part of global health initiatives, of sector-wide approaches, of country compacts with the international health partnership.

For Malaysia, yes, I think you're absolutely right and we've already talked about the destabilizing impact on human security of climate. I think as well as governments in developing countries carrying out their commitments, donor countries have failed to implement their promises about funding for family planning, for supplies, for services, for

information. And we must be responsive to that as well.

The comments from India, absolutely, the right to development is a human right, and I note that the Indian government stated yesterday that every citizen of this planet must have an equal share of the planetary atmospheric space, and you would also argue of other development. And, in Niger, I think the point about enacting laws, but which are not enforced, is very true. But we have seen countries, for example in Africa, Asia and elsewhere, invest in reproductive health on a rights-based approach, in voluntary family planning and they have seen economic benefits. I suppose the most recent to do so is Rwanda.

Regarding offshore farming, before I took up this position, yes, I'm in the extraordinarily fortunate situation of coming from a country the size of Japan with only 4 million people and 54 million sheep so farmland is not a problem for us and I couldn't agree more, we are hugely fortunate.

In conclusion, 1: We don't need a whole lot more initiatives, we just need you to keep the promises you've made already. Two, look at the size of the young population, the largest the world has ever seen, and think about unless you invest in them, what further impact that will have? And thirdly, if you don't invest in these issues, then we will create further instability and I think I've already given the answer, which is global warming that will not recognize country boundaries ultimately. We will all eventually pay the price. Right now, it is the poorest who are paying the price. The very poorest have a minute impact on our global footprint, but developing countries, will have a greater impact as they develop, and there are already very clear projections about the percentage of impact they will have by 2030.

[Hon. Françoise Castex MEP, France]

I can say that there should be a trusted relationship between the developed and the developing nations, and we have to define what the responsibilities of each group are. After defining the responsibilities, we can start addressing the issues. Regarding climate change, what is most obvious is that I think the advanced nations are most responsible for CO₂ emissions. I've mentioned that earlier in my introductory remarks. The concept of eco-accountability

should be established, environment accountability and for those countries who are taking the hardest blow, we should start asking the donor countries or the developed countries to be responsible for it. Let's say if there's a flood going on in the neighbouring countries and if that's because of the CO₂ emissions by other countries, then those countries should be responsible for what happened.

We know that malaria prevention is possible, still one million people die from this disease every year, and we cannot leave this as it is. It's unacceptable, so for the treatment and mosquito nets, developed nations should give support to developing countries so that all the people who are in need of treatment and mosquito nets can access them. And if people die because of malaria prevailed by climate change, the countries who are emitting CO₂ are accountable for that, and they are obligated to support those nations who are suffering from malaria.

Our friend from Niger mentioned that the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) and population issues especially in West Africa are really important. Because of the population increase, ODA and other subsidies are offset. So unless the

population is stabilized, even if we give so much money to them, you can't really expect outcomes. We need health and education systems to address these issues, but we face a lot of difficulties. Developed nations are also responsible to address these issues. Each developing country needs to take measures such as enacting laws to ban early marriages and making laws to make people understand that both men and women are responsible for undesired pregnancies or contraceptives.

[Chair]

Thank you so much. Professor Dr. Stokes drew the comparison that the CO₂ emission budget is the same as a household budget. If you open your wallet today to buy something, think of CO₂ emissions as well, because as much as you're spending your own budget, you're spending the budget for the CO₂. As Dr. Greer says, if you want to run quickly you have to go on your own, and if you're going to a far away place, walk with people. If you want to coexist with other people you have to understand other people and love other people as you walk forward. I want to thank you all for making this session an exciting one.

SESSION 2
Achieving the Health MDGs through Sustainable Development

Chair:

Hon. Khira Lagha Ben Fadhel

MP, Tunisia

President of Forum of African and Arab Parliamentarians on
Population and Development (FAAPPD)

SESSION 2

Health is the Premise for Global Development: The Case of Malaria

Dr. Awa Marie Coll-Seck

Executive Director
Roll Back Malaria Partnership (RBM)

[MC]

We would like to embark on the second session entitled *Achieving the Health MDGs through Sustainable Population*. This session will be officiated by Hon. Khira Lagha Ben Fadhel, President of FAAPPD and also Vice-Chair of the Women's Committee in Tunisia.

[Chair]

It is such a pleasure to be able to participate in this conference. It is such an honour because it is such an important conference. To Hon. Prime Minister Fukuda, we would like to extend our appreciation and I hope that his tenure will be completed in success. At this point I would like to serve as the facilitator of the second session.

I am going to introduce the speakers of the second session. First speaker will be Dr. Awa Marie Coll-Seck, Executive Director of Roll Back Malaria Partnership (RBM), who is the former Minister of Health in Senegal. From 1996-2001, she served as Director at UNAIDS, where she coordinated and mobilized the UN system response to the epidemic. She has written many books regarding scientific research and works in close cooperation with NGOs. After Dr. Coll-Seck's presentation, we will give the floor to Hon. Keith Martin from Canada. He is a member of the Liberal Party and he has assumed many positions in Parliament including Parliamentary Secretary for National Defence and Chief Opposition Critic posts in Foreign Affairs and Health. As a health expert, he is in charge of a program to send out health service professionals to Africa. Dr Martin is now the Official Opposition Critic for International Cooperation.

During this second session, we will be discussing global health, MDG achievement, and sustainable development.

[Dr. Awa Marie Coll-Seck, RBM]

We have had a lot of discussion on health and medicine and there are many cases in which health is being neglected, so I am very happy that we can take up this issue in this session and I want to thank the organizers of this meeting for that.

Today I would like to talk about the link between health and development, which is very clear and widely acknowledged. I would like to refer to three high-level decision makers who have clearly stated that health and development are linked. The UN Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon has said that health is not only a matter of health care, but of economic progress for the poorest people on earth. Dr. Michel Kazatchkine, Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, has very clearly said that improvement in public health is often the first step toward higher living standards in poor countries. Dr. Margaret Chan, Director-General of WHO, who is acutely focused on the link between health and development, has said that we have a dynamic link between health and economic prosperity and we have to engage politicians in our issue. She explains that health needs to be taken seriously by our world leaders.

Please allow me the opportunity afterwards to take the example of malaria and go into detail to explain how we can make connection between malaria and development. What is very clear is that health is a key component for global, social and economic development which is derailed by the death of more than 6 million people from HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria. In addition, more than half-a-billion people are sick every year because of these diseases. Ultimately, when we are looking at achieving the Millennium Development Goals, we cannot envisage such an achievement without a healthy population. I would like also to share with you the challenges we face when we are looking at how to improve

global health. There are many challenges and we have heard much discussion about transparency, accountability and coordination. I would like just to focus on three of them.

The first one is a comprehensive approach. When referring to a comprehensive approach, I mean that we need to have a multi-sectoral approach when we are looking at disease control, reproductive health or maternal and child health. This is very important because often we are looking at health as an issue only for the health sector. In fact, when you are looking at the problems like this, you don't often have results. You need to ensure that all sectors are involved, such as education, transport and agriculture, which all have very clear links with health. They need to be involved in fighting all the health problems. You also have to ensure that it is not only a public sector problem and that also the private sector and civil societies are involved in finding solutions.

We need also to look at disease control, not alone, but always linked to strengthening health systems and building the capacity of human resources. If we are only focusing on disease control, we will not have results. If we are only focusing on health strengthening, we will not have results – we need to combine our approach. Human resources are an enormous challenge in Africa. I would like to give one example. 11% of the world's population is living in Africa, and 25% of the disease burden is in Africa, but Africa has only 3% of all health workers. This shows the real problem people have on that continent. I think that it is a problem for all of us, but more importantly, it is a larger problem in the developing world, and even more so in Africa.

We also need a greater investment in research which is comprehensive and includes operational research – learning by doing. We need new tools, we need vaccines, we need drugs and we need to put all those together to have a comprehensive approach to health. This is a real challenge, but I think that a lot of countries with positive results are looking beyond the health sector to achieve results.

A second point we need to consider is gender equality. Women and girls are carrying the burden of disease. It has always been the case and women are taking care of everybody with

disease – men, women and children. It is also very clear that they are affected by initiatives to improve global health.

A third point is adequate financial resources. Discussions today have highlighted the issue of the lack of financial resources for all the problems and challenges we have in the developing world. We need to ensure that ODA is really being committed as promised. Donor countries have all stated that they would like to give 0.7% of their GDP to overseas development, but we are not yet at that point. All African heads of state decided that they need to increase their health budget to 15%. So, we need to look at not only the financial support from donor countries, but also look at what the countries themselves are putting towards health.

I would like to take the example of malaria, which does not receive enough attention and is almost a neglected disease. More and more people are finally talking about malaria and putting malaria on the agenda, but we need to do more because it is linked to development.

Malaria is one of the diseases referred to in Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 6. But by focussing on tackling malaria you can actually contribute to the other MDGs. By rolling back malaria, we can impact on maternal health, child mortality, empowerment of women, education, and also poverty. There are many examples of progress in these areas as a result of tackling malaria but I wanted to speak about things which have been documented and give you examples of how we can look at malaria as a development issue.

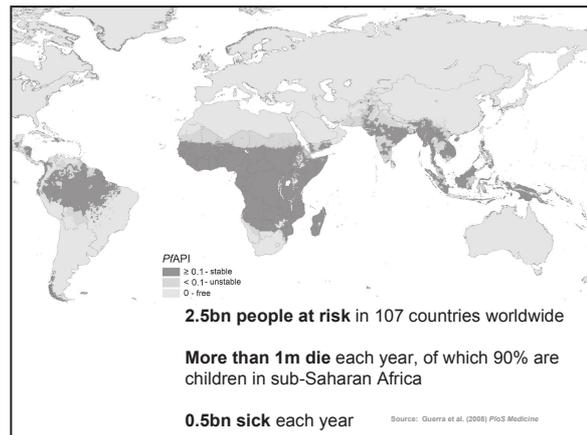
I am speaking of a disease, which impacts 40% of the world's population. 2.5 billion people are at risk of malaria, in 107 countries worldwide. Looking at this map, we see red (darkest grey) representing malaria and it predominates much of the developing world.

Many actors and people working with malaria are convinced that malaria is a disease of the poor and maybe this is why a lot of attention is not given to this disease. But if you look at all the people who are at risk of the disease and when you also look at the fact that every year between 1 to 3 million people die, mostly in rural areas, you can understand why the figures themselves are not so clear. Sometimes they

have no access to infrastructure and they are dying without treatment. Annually, half a billion people become infected with malaria. 3,000 children under 5 die daily. Malaria is the most common cause of death – it is not AIDS, it is not respiratory disease, it is malaria. 20% of the under-5 deaths are linked to malaria. It is also the leading cause of school absenteeism in endemic countries. This is something the education sector needs to take into account. With these figures, we can understand why malaria has an impact on productivity and the economy of countries.

Malaria has also an impact on pregnant women who are 4 times more likely to get malaria. There are of course other problems and risks such as at the beginning of the pregnancy or at the end of it with premature children or underweight children. These also have consequences for child mortality. This is why we can say that malaria is also impacting on MDG 5.

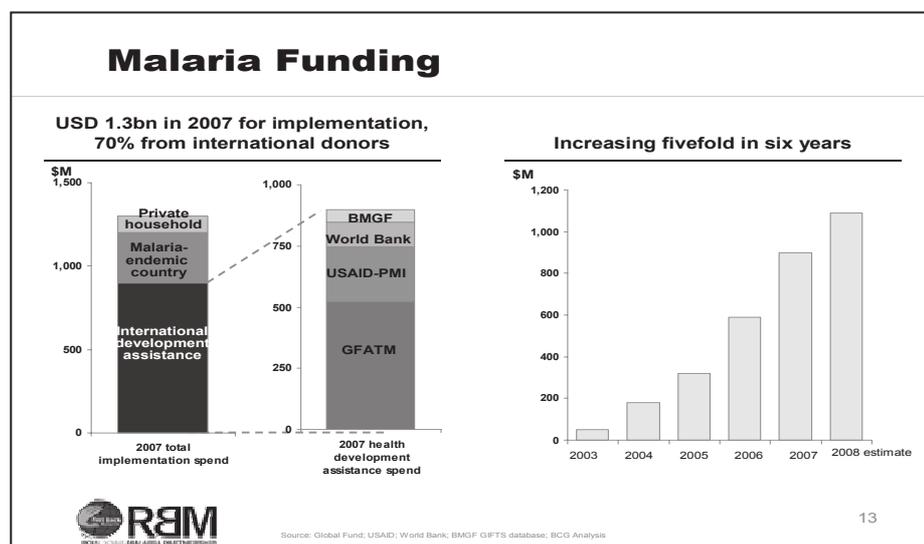
People could say that this is a disaster, but my problem is that malaria is actually a preventable and treatable disease, but we do have the tools to cure it. You have now a very clear understanding of what the tools are. Long-lasting insecticidal nets which last between 3 to 5 years; indoor residual spraying, which is widely used now in some countries inside the home. There is also preventative treatment available for pregnant women. Chloroquine used to be the most effective treatment, however now it is ineffective because of resistance. Now you have new treatments. These contain Artemisinin which is derived from a plant growing in Africa and Asia, particularly in China and Vietnam. The drawback is that these drugs are more expensive than Chloroquine, sometimes even 20 times more expensive, and that is why the global community is looking at an international subsidy to ensure that the drugs will be available and



affordable and will be able to reach the poor, and people in rural areas. If not, these good treatments will be only for those who are Plos Medicine wealthy enough to afford them.

Investing in malaria will bring a lot of dividends, as demonstrated in a study by McKinsey. It states that when we invest \$1 in the fight against malaria, we can gain \$20 worth of benefits. That is because there are less sick people, less people in hospitals, thus more productivity. I visited various hospitals in Zambia where there are empty beds, meaning they are able to treat people with other diseases. This helps the health care system to be more responsive and offer a better service. We also have also studies from The Copenhagen Consensus showing that malaria control is in the top 5 most cost effective health interventions.

When work and interventions are carried out properly, a decline in malaria-related morbidity and mortality is very visible. This has been the case in Rwanda these past 2 years, where after nationwide mosquito net campaigns and



Artemisinin combination therapy, a decrease in malaria and mortality has become very clear. Vietnam had to start the fight against malaria a long time ago and they have shown very good results, with a rapid decrease in cases. They are becoming an example in the sub-region and particularly in the Mekong area.

Despite some advances, there is still insufficient funding for malaria; the gap remains and we really need to advocate for more. We will need more than 3 billion US dollars a year if we want to control malaria. If you look at all the money used for other things – war, a lot of equipment, which are both not necessary – you will see very simply that 3 billion dollars is not too much when you look at saving millions of lives and this is possible. We have reached 1.3 billion, and

I think that if we accelerate our effort and we all work together, we really will be able to reach more than 3 billion dollars.

Roll Back Malaria is pushing very hard and accelerating the work to support countries in reaching the targets of 2010, particularly in Africa, to halve the burden of malaria. The UN Secretary-General is also supporting this effort. Just a few months ago, during World Malaria Day, he asked the international community to achieve universal access to all interventions for malaria control, elimination and eradication. The support of the G8 is needed, and that is why addressing this agenda item here is very important. I would like to thank you Madame Chairman, and all the parliamentarians here. Thank you.

SESSION 2

Universal Right to Health as a Critical Step to Advancing the MDGs: A Prescription for Action

Hon. Dr. Keith Martin

MP, Canada

It is a pleasure to be here, you have been most gracious, particularly APDA, JPFA, and our corporate sponsors. I was privileged to be here in April for the G8 Development Ministers' Meetings and interestingly, as the speakers went around and around the circle, the refrain was, "We have to act". If we simply speak and we don't act, then we are failing the very people that we are here to help. We are then also failing our own taxpayers who fund a lot of the actions. What I'm going to do today is outline and delineate some of the challenges in meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and illustrate solutions that we have been using in Canada.

A Prescription for Action:

We know the MDGs, so I will not repeat them, but I do add emphasis on the issue of reducing poverty by half, because we know how poverty impacts the health of the poor. As a friend of mine said, "Less talk, more action saves lives. Use words if you only have to". Last month, the UN Human Rights Council held deliberations and they came away with one fundamental issue – health is a fundamental right. It is fundamental to our lives, its fundamental to our future, our families and our countries. This is what we are here to discuss now and in the future, in the meantime building solid relations with each other. During these periods of time we have a great opportunity to work together, to learn from each other, to determine what's working and throw out what is not, continue building, acting, and improvising, developing and implementing as time passes over the course of the year.

Medications and equipment, diagnostics, and other infrastructure, power supply, transportation:

To build up local capacity, you have to have a plan in which the principles are sustainable and you have to build up local capacity. It has to be equal and universal access and retention of capacity is exceedingly important. If our

investments do not hold in needy countries, then we're not helping the people who need it the most. For that reason, it is important to focus on the basics such as primary care. The reason why I say that is because there are three things that we know that we have to measure if we know we're getting things right. Those are: maternal mortality, infant mortality and lifespan.

Why is that so and what does it mean? It means that we should be able to help a woman when she's pregnant, it means that we should have trained health care workers, basic, but adequate surgical capabilities, medications, clean water, power supply and infrastructure to get the patient there. That way, no matter what walks through the door, whether it's a child that has pneumonia, or a child that's got gastroenteritis, or somebody with malaria, or a pregnant woman, then you can probably treat that person and help that person. That's why it is so fundamentally important that we focus on maternal health care.

Prevention and treatment:

The challenges are conflict, corruption, a lack of capacity in infrastructure, discriminating laws and practices, early marriage, female genital mutilation, lack of legal protection for women's RH, lack of coordination and lack of focus. With regard to lack of coordination and focus, I feel sorry for a lot of the low income countries because what they have to deal with are hundreds, sometimes thousands, of groups getting involved in the country, with an array of obligations, which is not very fair to the recipient country. That had to be streamlined, so what UNAIDS did is develop something called the "Three Ones": One framework, One implementing mechanism, One oversight mechanism. It's interesting because the difference before and after is quite dramatic. It cleaned a lot of the things up and made sure that money that was going in was being more effective at dealing with the problems that they were supposed to deal with.

In Western countries, the demographics are very interesting. We have an aging population, people retire, but when they retire they still have a lot of skills on their hands, and a lot of them want to go and work abroad and be able to not only help in terms of treatment from the medical side, but they also want to be able to build capacity.

We did a small study at the Canadian Medical Association and found something interesting. We found a bi-modal distribution of groups that were interested in actually helping out. The groups were the following: there were the new graduates and, importantly, the Perry retirement crew. At the Perry retirement age, around 65 or so, there were a lot of people that wanted to go and help. So what we've developed is something called the Canadian Physician Overseas Program. We are going to utilize that population of doctors in focused areas, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa to provide care, but more importantly to be able to uplift the skill sets that are there.

Retention:

Now, we in the West are hypocrites in this area. We have been poaching health care workers from developing countries which is absolutely immoral. How can we possibly help to be providing aid, when we're taking health care workers from those who need it the most? There are some things that we can do in order to address this, and there are some very interesting things that we've put together. In 2003 there was a Commonwealth Code of Practice, if you signed on to that, then you were making an obligation not to actively poach health care workers from developing countries. All of us in the West must sign on to that, or perhaps create an international equivalent to that.

The retention aspect:

There's a push/pull system that occurs in developing countries with health care workers. Reasons for this can be lack of pay, health for themselves, working conditions that are inadequate, safety and security for their families – all of that acts as a push/pull to draw health care workers away from developing countries. So what we need to do, what we're trying to do in Canada, is not only are we going to have the training component, but we're going to work towards being able to provide the retention aspects in to keep the health care workers there in terms of pay, in terms of better working

conditions, in terms of health care and in terms of opportunities for themselves, their children and their families. That way, we can keep the workers there, which are the glue and the bull work that holds their whole primary health care system together. The other thing that I want us to do is that if you can't prevent somebody from going abroad and working, but if we do that, in my view, we should train two health care workers for every health care worker that comes to our countries and that way we have a positive influence on the health human capacity building that we're trying to do.

What's the deficit? Well, in Sub-Saharan Africa about 1.5 million health care workers are required in the next 10-15 years. There's already a deficit of a million, which is absolutely shocking. What's our goal? If you took it and looked at it as a ratio, it would be about 2.5 workers for every thousand. If you get above that level, if you have 2.5 workers for every thousand, then you have quite a significant difference in your health care outcomes. It is a hard target that we are trying to deal with.

The issue of conflict:

We have, as you know, in the UN adopted an obligation to protect. Sadly, we do not have an obligation to act. I think one of the great challenges of foreign policy in the 21st century is how we manage to marry up an obligation to act, to save the lives of civilians in the face of horrendous human rights activities. We have a judicial framework, but we don't have an enforcement mechanism. We have to have that enforcement mechanism, and I'll give a couple of examples. Sudan, we know. In Eastern Congo, 30,000 people die, month in and month out, year after year. In my view, that is one of the greatest, unheralded, humanitarian catastrophes in our world today, which is largely ignored. We have to deal with that as a matter of basic humanity.

The situation of Zimbabwe is profoundly tragic, but also interesting in many ways. In 1990, the average lifespan of somebody in Zimbabwe was 60, today it is 34. The leader of that country, Mr. Mugabe, is withholding food and basic medications from his people, and 25% of the population is HIV positive. What is the most important drug for somebody that is HIV positive? It's actually food – it's actually adequate nutrition. If you have adequate nutrition, your chance of converting from being

HIV positive to getting AIDS diminishes quite significantly.

So through the UN Security Council, the AU and other bodies, there are a few things that we can do; Strengthen the small arms and light weapons registry. A few years ago, the International Committee of the Red Cross did a fascinating study. They got a group of surgeons together and they looked at light weapons, and they looked at it through the prism of public health. They posed a very interesting argument that said that small arms and light weapons are a significant public health hazard in developing countries. The small arms and light weapons registry would be very beneficial in tracking the illegal movement of arms, and introducing a permit system for export and import of these weapons. Enhancing the UN's early warning system, creating a rules-based mechanism of initiatives that are engaged well before the killings, rape, and murder, and torture, begins on a wide scale, utilizing the International Criminal Court to prosecute people who do this.

On the issue of corruption and enhancing the people's ability to know where moneys are going, there's some interesting capacity building that needs to be done at civil society level, and also within the civil service, within the judiciary, as well as in the banking and financial sectors. There's a great opportunity to use donor countries and Western countries to be able to export that capacity to build up that capacity in developing countries. What I find really disturbing is that large sums of money are spent to develop plans however, those plans are given to countries that don't have the capacity to implement them. We are setting countries up for failure when we do that, and that I think is just completely unfair. If we're able to use our Western expertise to be able to build up the capacity in developing countries, then we'll be able to build up that stability. The code of conduct for foreign companies is very, very important. An obligation to publish moneys paid out to companies, which has been used in Europe quite effectively and adopting a special economic measures act to be able to prosecute companies that are violating basic codes of conduct.

In dealing with the lack of capacity in medications and equipment, I draw to you Canada. We have a group called Health Partners

International of Canada, which is the philanthropic wing of drug companies. What we've been able to do is take medications based on the needs of the developing countries and institutions. Dina Epale from Action Canada for Population and Development (ACPD) and I were in Ghana last year on a study tour and we went into some of the hospitals. What we did when we came back was we received a needs list from the medical directors of those hospitals. We filled it and we sent it on behalf of Canada which hosts other health care groups such as "Doc to Dock". Dr. Bruce Charash is a cardiologist in New York, and he's getting a lot of the equipment, which is perfectly good equipment, and he's sending that equipment out to developing countries. If you have a chance to take a look at it, please do.

I mentioned nutrition. Take a look at something called the Micronutrient Initiative. This is one of the easiest things to do, and some of the cheapest things to do have the biggest bang for our buck. Let me illustrate some very shocking, staggering, but also inspiring possibilities that exist in this area. 177 million people are malnourished in this world, and 3 million people die every year from this. Now what do you think it costs to be able to provide a child with iodine for a year? 5 cents. You give it to a child, and you'll avoid something called cretinism, which is irreversible brain damage to that child. Iodine: 5 cents. Iron: 12 cents. One third of the entire population of the world is iron deficient. When I used to work on the Mozambique border during the war there, I was astounded that people were coming into the hospital with hemoglobins that were half of the lowest level of normal what we would have back in Canada. Half. In Canada anybody would be flat out on their back, unable to move, or they'd be having heart arrhythmias, and they would die. But where I was working, people would walk in with haemoglobins of 60 and 70. Now, a very exciting thing is if you can reduce the level of anaemia, particularly in pregnant women, you dramatically reduce the maternal mortality rates, and look how cheap it is – 12 cents to do that. Zinc costs about 15 cents a year, vitamin A, 20 cents, and you reduce visual problems.

On the issue of nutrition, we know that food production can be increased 2 to 3 times for the 450 million small landholders that live in the world, and we need to do much better job of

enabling those people to get the seed, agricultural practices that they need in order to do their job. That means supporting and maximizing the effectiveness of the FAO and IFAD. The West also has to end the agricultural subsidies and trade barriers that prevent and inhibit productivity in developing countries. This is a block and it is our responsibility to remove it. If we are serious about aid and development, we better get on with doing that at the WTO.

Last in this area, fuel costs. It's interesting that the US Senate did a very interesting study looking at fuel costs over the last 2 years. 60% of the increase in fuel costs is not due to supply and demand issues at all – it's due to large institutional speculators putting billions and billions of dollars into the market to turn a quick profit. These people are not users, they're not refiners, they're simply trying to turn a quick profit and as a result of that, the prices of commodities, particularly in food products, as well as in oil, have increased dramatically. 60% of that increase over the last 2 years is due to pure speculation, done electronically, in unregulated markets in the world. We certainly would look towards the IMF to provide us with some guidance in that area.

On the issue of discriminatory laws and practices, working with relevant countries to educate women and men, in terms of gender equity, we can train little girls, absolutely, but it's important to train little boys too so they grow up to respect girls when they get older. I believe it's important to do both. Banning female genital mutilation, enabling women and men to have an access to an array of contraceptive options, education and family planning is essential. Encouraging laws to be adopted to set a minimum of age of marriage must occur in order to avoid things such as fistula.

Coordinating activities is very important, with a focus on maternal health. We have a great opportunity as G8 nations to be able to come together. Perhaps each G8 nation could take a leadership role in one area – be it water and sanitation, be it health human resources, be it infrastructure – and if one country takes the lead and coordinates the activities of other G8 nations, as well as NGOs, we'll be able to do a lot to be able to address some of the problems

that we're seeing; "Three Ones", as I mentioned earlier.

Finally, I would like to address a couple of very exciting things that we've been doing in British Columbia, in my province. The BC Centre for Excellence for HIV/AIDS is headed by Brazilian Dr. Julio Montaner, World Head of HIV/AIDS. We worked together on a number of issues, and I want to share some very exciting new research that's come out: HAART therapy, Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy. In British Columbia, since 2004, we have been giving that to women early in their pregnancy. Since 2004, no single woman that has been treated has delivered a baby that is HIV positive – not one. That should be available to every pregnant woman in the world. Secondly, the HAART therapy has also been used for what we call serodiscordant couples, where one person is HIV positive, the other is negative. You give the HAART therapy to the person who is positive, and you drop the number of viral particles to a certain level which is very low, and you will inhibit the ability of that person to be able to transmit the virus to their partner. Similarly, it can be used for high-risk populations. Use the HAART therapy with high-risk populations and you'll be able to reduce the transmission of that person to other individuals.

In Canada, we also developed an International Conservation Caucus, apropos to our last group of speakers. We heard Dr. Stokes talk very eloquently about the importance of interaction between the environment as well as with health care. We know that environmental challenges know no borders and so we have to adopt solutions that are international. We have come together in a non-partisan way and developed an all-party International Conservation Caucus to deal with international environmental challenges. One of the first ones that we did was dealing with the Congo River basin, which is one of the "lungs" of the planet. This has been started by the United Kingdom and is well funded. With this, there are some exciting opportunities to be able to link sustainable development and environmental protection.

I want to highlight some of the work that's been done in South Africa, particularly in the province of KwaZulu-Natal, as well as in Botswana and in Namibia. What they did in KwaZulu-Natal is that they came up with

solutions very much supported by the World Wildlife Fund. They said if you have wild spaces and critical habitat, and if that critical habitat has value to the surrounding people, the people will preserve that area. What they are doing is utilizing that area in a sustainable way, with a small environmental footprint. The people in the surrounding area benefit in primary education, primary health care, jobs, and infrastructure. It is a very exciting project, and I hope that South Africa, Botswana and Namibia can share that with the rest of the world, because, in my opinion, they have some of the best projects anywhere.

What we are also doing back home is that we're linking up schools in Canada with orphanages and schools in developing countries, developing a relationship between both of them. We did this with the University of Ottawa a few years ago and linked it with the town of Maradi in Niger, thanks to the help of our friend from Niger. It has been a very interesting relationship. The University of Ottawa have assets on the ground for that area and they have visited Maradi. Now they have a relationship between the business school at the University of Ottawa and Maradi. It's a very interesting model.

In conclusion, primary health care is the key. If we enable us to have an adequately strong primary health care system, we'll deal with most of what is able to come through the door, we'll be able to reduce maternal mortality, reduce infant mortality and increase lifespan. If we are also able to link the capacity of the donor nations with recipient nations to build their own capabilities in a sustainable manner, then this is a relationship that I believe should be encouraged. Lastly, we must tackle the 3C's, of Conflict, Corruption, and a lack of Capacity.

Colleagues, I am certainly looking forward to seeing you in Italy in 2009, and I hope to see you in Canada in 2010. We have heard some great solutions here this morning, and we'll hear some great ones tomorrow. I hope that we will be able to roll up our sleeves and work together, listen to the needs of our colleagues from developing countries and work together to be able to deal with the challenges ahead. In doing so, we will be able to have a much safer and wonderful world for all of us. Thank you for your time and attention.

SESSION 2

Comments from G8

Hon. Danielle Bousquet

MP, France

I think this is a very innovative conference. What I would like to focus on is women's rights and share with you the French strategies in that regard. The French Foreign Ministry has published a document regarding French strategic orientation on women's rights. This document presents the policies and strategies of France on the rights and health of women in the world, in particular in the developing countries and in Sub-Saharan Africa. The document acknowledges that we are far behind in living up to the commitment of the MDGs in terms of its ODA for LDCs and the document gives priority to achieving MDGs. The strategies focus on MDG 6 – Fight against malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS; MDG 5 – Achieving maternal health care for women; and MDG 4, fight against infant mortality. Developing access to essential medical supplies is another area. These four are given priority.

Starting with improving the rate of maternal mortality: For this we need to achieve the improvement of the status and rights of women, in particular, her right to health. Notably, international efforts are already under way at different levels, so France has committed itself to enforcing the efforts as part of that international community. Access to sexual/reproductive health care should particularly be improved. It is essential to make people aware that this is a social problem and involve men as well to advance efforts. In Africa, it is predicted in the next 40 years the population will be three-fold, which will be a major handicap for the development of future generations. Access to contraception, education and development is essential to development.

With France's strategy, there can be a bilateral, multilateral and regional partnership with NGOs, and we will develop further our contributions through those channels. There were major international conferences. In 1994 we had the Cairo Conference Beijing, in 1995 New York, in 2000, then Beijing Plus Five was held. At these

conferences, France has been committed to improving the status of women. In particular, France is trying to address the issues of poverty of women, who often tend to be the victim of it, violence against women, protection of women's rights, access for women to decent work, establishment for their civil rights and promotion of women in decision-making processes. This all comes down to the empowerment of women. Empowering women is needed to improve economic, social and political situations in developing countries. That is the basic strategy of France.

France is also promoting gender mainstreaming. France has established guidelines with regard to gender issues and has put in place major measures in policies. With regard to the health of women, many factors are intricately involved and it requires a variety of academic approaches including medicine, gynaecology, obstetrics, public health, pandemics, social anthropology, economics, demography, law and communication. It requires collaboration and synergistic effect among those academic disciplines. At the same time it is important to involve public sectors and citizens in local areas who we focus on assisting.

There are three major objectives that France has outlined. The first is the establishment of women's rights and the right to choice. The second, is the measures for HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases for women. Thirdly is the reduction of maternal and child mortality and morbidity. Regarding the status and rights of women, sub-objectives include raising the age of marriage, fight against violence, social security and education. Reproductive health education is not just for girls, but boys as well and they need to be provided with this information.

In addition, in order to improve reproductive rights of women, some of the concrete policies are providing information on how to control the interval of child bearing and contraceptives as

well as ensuring access to a safe abortion. Infertility care is another pillar and women need to have access to professional care for that. It is also important that adolescents and young people have access to information and knowledge about sexual/reproductive health and, specifically, education and information for all the young people including young married women, eradication of violence against young girls and preventive measures for infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS. It is particularly important to listen to young people and what they have to say. Training staff who would provide care for them is also essential.

The second major policy pillar is to put measures in place for HIV/AIDS. As you may know, the number of those victimized by HIV/AIDS is ever-increasing.

Women who lived with HIV accounted for 41% of all cases in 1997, but after 2002 that proportion went up to nearly 50%. This increase is usually seen in the areas where heterosexual relationships are the most predominant mode of transmission. It is particularly evident in Sub-Saharan Africa, where women represent 58% of adult infection, and young girls account for 75% of the younger population's infection. So what are the measures to be put in place? Prevention is a major priority. That means providing necessary education and information and making preventative measures available. That should be targeted towards young people including young married women. They should be given information and commodities for contraception that girls and women can use by themselves such as condoms and microbicides. And it is important that prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases must be systematically integrated into sexual/reproductive health services. This is also part of the French policy measures that have been adopted. In addition, as I have previously mentioned, we must put an end to violence committed against women and girls.

The third major policy is to reduce maternal and child mortality and morbidity. Because of the lack of knowledge, people are not aware of complications in obstetrics and many women are neglected until they get worse. In developing countries, about 15% of pregnant women have obstetric complications. We need to put in place measures such as giving education to pregnant

women and their families. Also an effective proven method should be taken into practice on a large scale.

In the check-up during pregnancy, it is important to draw out from the pregnant woman her problems and to be able to address them. Then, when they are delivering a baby, skilled persons have to attend to them. The setup for the emergency obstetric care and neo-natal care must be in place and to provide post-natal service and to ensure that women are able to return to society and assume activities there after delivering a child is also very important.

The documents outline the need to improve the efficiency of these strategies and the need for follow-up. So how would France do this? At the domestic level, we must ensure effective mobilization of personnel and resources. That is, improving efficiency by putting together the knowledge and work by specialists and NGOs, also within the rural areas. Making the visibility of French activities is also important.

Next, at the bilateral level, France will promote partnership with the French Development Agency, local governments and NGOs. Women's health rights must be included into national plans, and women's rights must be reinforced. There will be support given to protecting the rights of women, raising the age of women when they get married and fighting against genital mutilation.

Third, at the multilateral level, France would like to see the French presence and participation raised in international programs such as those by WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF and also have France accumulate and strengthen professional knowledge and expertise in this regard. France continues to support the projects conducted by WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF providing project-based financial contribution and subsidies, as well as representing committees and executive board meetings of these organizations. French representatives will always be at the committees to discuss measures for sexual/reproductive health.

Fourth, it is very important that France makes the best of the role of EU president. As of yesterday, France now holds the rotating presidency of the EU and as the presidential country, France will give priority to the

initiatives to protect and enforce the women's rights as EU agenda. Some policies have already been put in place. Within the UN system, France will take initiatives to fight against violence toward women and a European Union forum with NGOs on discrimination against women will take place in December 2008. France aims to adopt indicators regarding the link between women and conflict. Enhancing women's rights is our first priority.

You might think that it's all rosy, but there is a certain trend that is seen in Europe and in France and that is the concept of co-development. Recently, the issues of migration and ODA are often taken up together in France and this concept of linking ODA directly to migration is seen in French policies. France recognizes the important role of migrants in promoting development of their countries of origin. This co-development policy is considered as a success model for managing migration and promoting cooperation for development. In the past and everywhere, we have migration, but it has to come from positive motivation of individuals. As you all know well, currently the flow of migrants sends a very clear message and it is the poverty of their countries of origin that spur these people to leave their countries. Global warming also spurs the migration.

There's another thing that I would have to discuss, something which is not positive. As France's ODA is being cut down, there are risks that are caused by this. France has not lived up to its commitment of giving 0.7% of GNI, and France has said that it would achieve this by 2012, but now France says that it will do so by 2015, which is the EU level. That means 18 billion US Dollars will be lacking. In 2007, OECD statistics shows that French ODA has been declining very dramatically for the first time since 2000. In 2006, France provided 0.4% of GNP, but in 2007 it dropped down to 0.39%. But that's not very bad in terms of the European level – it's about the average. As I mentioned, there will be shortage of 18 billion dollars worth, and that could finance children in developing countries to go to school for one whole year.

During this time of the French presidency of the EU, there will be 2 international high-level forums held. One will take place in Accra in September, which will be the follow-up from the Paris Declaration. The other will be the

International Conference on Financing for Development in Doha in December. As the president of EU, France has an essential role to play to coordinate the EU voices and presenting them at these fora. France must re-strengthen its commitment and cooperation. Thank you very much.

Discussion — SESSION 2

[Chair]

Now its time for discussion. First Senegal and the Niger, please.

[Hon. Elhadji Malick Diop MP, Senegal]

I would like to congratulate Dr. Coll-Seck on her wonderful presentation. In Senegal, malaria is really the major disease. Recently there have been many efforts made to eradicate malaria, but even after 20 years, when you look at the results of research and polls, the major reason for people to see the doctor is malaria. Dr. Coll-Seck is an expert in this field, and I have a question for you. What is the budget for the distribution of free insecticide-treated mosquito nets and to what extent are they effective?

Hon. Bousquet, when you talked about co-development, you mentioned the immigration problem. But I would also like to hear from you about selective immigrants. I think selective immigration is promoting brain drain from developing countries.

[Chair]

Nigeria please. Then, Madagascar and Ghana.

[Hon. Saudatu Sani MP, Nigeria]

It is very, very, very important to address the issue of malaria as a single disease that kills many children as well as adults. Malaria can kill at conception, during pregnancy, after pregnancy, and after delivery of the baby. However, we have a big challenge. The challenge is, because of poverty, people result to traditional method of treatment. People break down trees, such as the Neem tree, crush the leaves and drink the solution. How far this goes to treat malaria, or what side effects it has on malaria, only the medical doctors know. Also, this traditional treatment of malaria has an effect on

environmental degradation, because continuously the leaves of the Neem trees are being burned to drive away mosquitoes and other insects.

Again, because the drugs are expensive, but the people are poor, they resort to all kinds of natural treatments. As my colleague from Senegal said: "Where are the nets?" We have put in a lot of money for insecticide treated mosquito nets and I still have yet to see one. They are not there because you cannot see them. So the nets are just within very few privileged circles. If the G8 countries will commit to the funding, maybe a lot of the nets will be available for all African countries and people. Governments are not putting effort into spraying or the use of mosquito nets. Now, I'm happy we're in Asia where a lot of traditional medicines are very much working. People believe in Chinese and Japanese medicines, we should invest to find out the natural resources available in Africa, because there are many herbal drugs in Africa that have not been tapped. We should make it a policy to invest in providing this research to bring out those African readily available drugs.

Now going to the second presenter, Dr. Martin from Canada, the program you showed is an excellent one. But I want to say that, how are you able to bring this retention of skilled workers that you're talking about? How is it possible? How are you able to involve the government of that country, because it doesn't look sustainable if you are the only one doing it, how do you make it be sustainable? Then, from what you are presenting, I saw an over-concentration of donor agencies or donor supports to one section of Africa, and as I've always said, communicable diseases, poverty and hunger do not respect geographical boundaries. How do you treat other parts of the continent, while only concentrating on one part?

The idea of this business school to an African school is a very good initiative and I would like to know more about it. With that I want to thank you.

As far as women empowerment is concerned, in Nigeria, we just recently we presented a memo to the Political Reform Agenda Committee, which was established by our President to 'look at how we can reform our country'. We are just

about to amend the Constitution to take care of other issues. We said that the men cannot be in front and leaving the women behind, but men and women must work side by side. This is our new slogan now.

I wish you the best in France, and also come to Africa to share your experience with us and vice versa, so together we can be a global partnership. Thank you.

[Hon. Benedicte Johanita Ndahimananjara MP, Madagascar]

I am a member of the Population and Development Committee in Madagascar and I'm also a member of the executive committee to deal with these issues.

I think all countries are in agreement that development and health are closely linked. Whether a certain country is a developed country or a developing country, I am sure you have been taking countermeasures against such issues as reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and malaria. Government, parliament, and civil society including NGOs have been making efforts to that end; however, those activities are not synchronized or well coordinated. How to synchronize those different activities is the central point. Also we also have resource problems – both financial and human resources. In my country, a lot of efforts are being made and we have seen some positive results, but it's still not enough. Malaria is a disease that has negative impact on development. The infant mortality and maternal mortality increase because of malaria, and we also have dengue fever, which has symptoms similar to those of malaria. Malaria and dengue fever sometimes occur at the same time. So eradicating those diseases is really a serious issue in my country. I would also like to draw your attention to the sleeping disease, which is a disease with a lot of mystery, but it has existed for a long time. Sleeping sickness also has a bad impact on human resource development, and some kind of measures should be taken against this disease.

[Chair]

Thank you very much, next Ghana.

[Hon. Akua Sena Dansua MP, Ghana]

I want to know from Dr. Coll-Seck, how far the world, maybe WHO and Roll Back Malaria, has come to develop a vaccine for malaria,

especially for children. I'm saying this because it takes so little to prevent it, to provide the bed nets, to continue education. But I would think that it would be cheaper and more cost effective to develop a vaccine like we have for the six childhood killer diseases. So I want to know how far the world has gone, and what parliamentarians can also do by way of lobbying or advocacy for this and for the realization of this dream. Thank you.

[Hon. Maurice Bangayassi MP, Central Africa Republic]

I have a question for Dr. Coll-Seck. You were saying that in developing countries, not even 15% of the budget is allocated for health. I am in charge of social welfare development for the Central African Republic and it is my life's work and my career's devotion, especially with regard to reproductive health and gender equality. Every year we have an appropriation committee and I am a member. The committee decides the appropriation of budget and it is closely related to health and education. We know these budgets are extremely important for development. The hospitals in our country are like hospices; everyone is just waiting for death. The work in front of us is really challenging, because there are plenty of issues and challenges that we need to overcome, so in that sense we need to decide the priority. For example, if you spend a lot of budget on health, then it will reduce the budget for education or drinking water, and so those problems remain unsolved. However, there are other issues, and of course there's cause and effect to these various issues that are there. So I would like to speak from the perspective of a parliamentarian. In order to achieve better outcomes in the health area, as I think somebody from UN mentioned, we have to address an array of fields. Developing countries in Africa do not have enough budget set aside for such purposes, and we need international society to be a part of this in order to cut down on the vicious cycle. The international global community should not just give us the grants, they should be able to apply pressure on each of the governments in terms of making good governance possible so that we can circumvent war, maintain peace, and appropriate budget for high priority issues. This is exactly what I wanted to mention through this opportunity.

[Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa MP, Zambia]

Malaria is also a problem in my country. The fact that it impedes the achievement of 6 of the 8 MDGs further emphasises the need to fight this disease. One of the issues that has been coming up in the press in the last few years is that criminal groups are getting into the field, and developing fake drugs for malaria. Now this is extremely serious for developing countries since its not often possible to test all the drugs that come in. This question is not necessarily to the presenter, but to anybody here: "What efforts are going into trying to catch these criminal elements that are coming up with fake drugs, which further increase mortality?" Thank you.

[Chair]

Uganda please.

[Hon. Sylvia N. M. Ssinabulya MP, Uganda]

First I want to thank the Member of Parliament from Canada, for coming out openly to acknowledge that the developed countries have been poaching on the human resource of developing countries. I would also like to applaud the very good initiatives which have come from Canada and I hope other countries would emulate what Canada is doing in solving the human resource challenges faced by developing countries.

I also wanted to comment on the issue of integrating interventions for HIV/AIDS and malaria, with regard to maternal health. Hon. Bousquet from France talked about it as a policy initiative which is coming up. This is very important because in the recent past we have seen increased funding for programs and projects on HIV/AIDS, on malaria and we've seen dwindling funding to programs dealing with reproductive health and maternal health. We've seen a lot of funding coming for HIV/AIDS and when this has happened, we see external and even internal effort for HIV/AIDS prevention, rather than maternal health improvement. I don't want to underscore the importance of preventing and treating HIV/AIDS or malaria, but when we don't integrate, we miss opportunities. If you look at HIV/AIDS and maternal health, we can use the same resources to improve maternal health, but this is not happening on the ground.

I'll give an example of PEPFAR funding. PEPFAR funding is concentrated on Prevention of Mother-To-Child-Transmission and it doesn't take into consideration other intricacies which can help to improve maternal health. For example, women with HIV/AIDS are given PMTCT treatment, but when the woman delivers her baby, that puts a stop to the intervention and the woman goes out without further follow-up. She's not put on antiretroviral, she's not supported with condoms and at the end of the day, the problem is not handled as it should have been done.

So, I think we should now look at how we can integrate all these programs so that we can achieve much more. When maternal health is improved, when HIV/AIDS has been controlled, when malaria has been handled – I think that would be a better approach than as it is now.

[Chair]
Philippines, please.

[Hon. Dr. Janette Garin MP, Philippines]

I am quite shocked with the statistics that the good speaker has presented. There are 3,000 children dying everyday due to malaria, which is very alarming. In your presentation, you mentioned the provision of mosquito nets. In our country before there was also a high incidence of malaria. Aside from mosquito nets, more focus was given to the eradication of the mosquito vectors. Is this also applicable in your country? This might be one of the factors wherein the incidence would be reduced. It is not only preventing the mosquito from biting the possible patients, but it is somehow avoiding the existence of these mosquitoes, which is very vital in the conversion of the plasmodium.

My second question is to Dr. Martin. I am quite happy that you mentioned the challenges regarding the migration of health care workers, which is vital to the country from which I come. The Philippines is one of the major senders of quality doctors and nurses and other medical and paramedical professionals throughout the global nation. We are losing most of them, if not all of them. We lose the skilled ones who end up with new, fresh graduates, who do not have the experience that is needed in quality practice. You mentioned about your country increasing pay, improving the working conditions and giving them better privileges. As much as we are

trying to come up with this solutions, our country cannot because, as a developing country, we cannot put even an equal to the salaries and privileges that are being offered by developed countries.

Allow me therefore to propose, although this is not the major legislative work, is it more of the legislative aspect, that we present to the executive board, a concept of mutual reciprocation, wherein the sending country, like the Philippines, will be able to address our problems by the developed country or the recipient country of the medical and paramedical professionals, through the appropriation of development aid. I believe that the developed countries and the G8 countries have their own minister(s) for international development, the officers of development cooperation and this can be patterned in a way wherein, for example, every doctor being sent to London would be reciprocated by the UK Parliament, or the British Government giving us like one building in a hospital where that doctor came from. It is then a mutual reciprocity wherein the loss of health on our part is being reciprocated by the recipient country.

This, as Dr. Martin has reiterated, cannot be prevented, but what we are asking is a situation wherein mutual reciprocity can be addressed. I am not talking only about hospital buildings, it can be in terms of equipment or scholarships, it can be maybe in the situation that every nurse sent to a recipient country can be reciprocated by probably five scholars being paid by that government so that more nurses can go to school and we will be producing more professionals, especially in the medical field. I am a medical doctor, and I have vast experience on the shortage of nurses and doctors in our country. We are sometimes on a 24 to 48 hour shifts, simply because we have departments who are not functioning any more due to the brain drain. This is something that cannot be solved by us alone, but this is something that can be solved by the recipient country and the sending country helping each other in a parallel situation. This has a great impact on the MDGs. If we discuss poverty eradication, if you discuss achieving the MDGs, then we should always think that the basic wealth of a nation is a healthy population. However, we are running out of quality doctors and quality medical professionals simply because there are better benefits outside our

country. Thank you.

[Hon. Dr. Donya Aziz MP, Pakistan]

I'd like to first congratulate all three of our presenters on very interesting remarks this afternoon. I especially would like to appreciate Dr. Martin's presentation, where he is showing us that aside from just giving Official Development Assistance, developed countries can really help developing countries with programs that they initiate on their own, in their own homelands.

This morning the issue of aid was discussed, and the fact that aid is many times bypassed. It bypasses parliament so the parliamentarians really don't know what's happening with the aid and what the conditionalities are. Would any of the G8 parliamentarians over here consider moving legislation in your own country that would require your government, as part of the conditionality, to require the recipient government to share the aid information with the recipient country's parliament? I think that's one way that we can get the parliamentarians from the developing world actually on the table, because aid is bureaucratically dominated, and it's just your bureaucrats talking to our bureaucrats, and the representatives of the people are rarely involved.

My second question is to the member from France, and I have to apologize before I ask it as it's a very political question, but I can't resist. In your presentation you talked about how you would like to help developing countries by eliminating the reasons of poverty in those countries. Since France has taken over the presidency of the EU, does that mean that France is really going to now reconsider its stance on agricultural subsidies? That is something which is causing a lot of poverty in agro-based societies like my own. Thank you.

[Hon. Ibrahim Sorie MP, Sierra Leone]

Reading the literature on Southeast Asian countries like Sri Lanka, Thailand, and to some extent Bangladesh, DDT was effectively used in the early 1950's to eradicate mosquitoes. What is the new position of WHO in reintroducing DDT to control and effectively eradicate malaria? Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Could you start answering questions, Dr. Coll-Seck?

[Dr. Awa Marie Coll-Seck, RBM]

Thank you so much for asking questions that show your interest in my presentation. The mosquito nets were distributed in great numbers freely and in the last seven years, in some countries, 2% or sometimes 10% of the land has been covered by these mosquito nets. Because we had the subsidies in some countries like Tanzania, 30% of the land was covered – but it was never enough. So, we asked the international community to give us the funds to enable us to cover the whole of the country, and when you have 80% coverage you will see good results. The private sector has taken on the distribution of mosquito nets. Dengue fever in Madagascar was discussed, and I think 1 agency in different countries in Asia treat both malaria and dengue fever. They're 2 different diseases, but they use same tools so there can be synergy in treating them at the same time.

And then also, with regard to cytosis, in most of the African countries the infection rate is quite high and of course every country has different priorities. In answer to the question of the Central African Republic, there are priorities to take but you have to make political decisions. In Senegal we decided that 40% of the budget will be used for education. We have not achieved that of 15% for health. Health hasn't gone up to 40%, but our commitment is to make health and education the priority. You got to have synergy because you might give more budget to education, and if education includes health education, then it would cover also for health areas.

Another point is counterfeit. Where you have expensive drugs, you have often counterfeits. There were not a lot of counterfeiting with Chloroquine, because it is so cheap that people do not want to take the time to counterfeit cheap things. If you have an expensive drug, you have a big market and counterfeits are there just to fill the gap. This is why we need to decrease the prices to be able to also fight against counterfeit, and have regulatory systems, and sub-regional systems to also be able to look at the drugs.

With regard to vaccines, to develop a vaccine against parasites is always a difficult one. If you

look at the six diseases you are referring to, they are all viruses, or bacteria, but parasites are a big problem. It has always been like this. Today we have a vaccine with 30% efficacy. This is not effective enough, therefore we have people who are still working on this, with the kind support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the researching of vaccines. When people have the vaccine it will be easier to vaccinate the whole population and not use all these things people are using today.

DDT is a complicated issue. DDT has been considered a problem by environmentalists for a long time. There has been much concern expressed by the European Union and other countries that DDT sticks to vegetables which then are a problem to export. That was some years ago but now they have found that when you spray DDT indoors, it does not harm the environment. Now the point is that it is very small amount of DDT, and it is done under the supervision of WHO. This is the position of WHO in this issue of DDT. Countries can use it, but there needs to be a lot of surveillance. They are ready to support a country if they use DDT in an appropriate manner. Thank you.

[Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP, Canada]

To our colleague from Nigeria: There has been a lot of research on different natural plants with regard to finding natural anti-malarials. The rainforest hosts a wealth of natural products, but similarly to the Neem tree, it is being destroyed. It goes without saying that this, of course, is a very serious problem. On artemisinin-combined therapy, artemisinin comes from a plant. In Afghanistan where they're growing a lot of poppies that produce opium, the same substrate that poppies grow in is the perfect substrate to grow artemisinin. It's an incredible development opportunity for the people of Afghanistan.

On the issue of retention of health care workers, we are trying to work with the diasporas. It's been a little bit difficult in Canada, but it is an important challenge for us. A very exciting other option is the XO computer. It's going for around US \$100 and is bullet proof. The XO computer has been designed to be used in developing countries' conditions. They have teaching models and it's an incredibly powerful tool for sustaining continued medical education.

I used to work in South Africa. As you noticed from Dr. Coll-Seck's malaria map, South Africa is a "grey" (lightest grey). Why is this grey (lightest grey)? Not so long ago, that whole area in here was red (dark grey). Not only was it malaria endemic, but it hosted the worst type of malaria, the falciparum malaria, which is cerebral malaria. I used to work just north of Swaziland, west of the Lebombo Mountains in Mozambique, and we had a lot of patients coming through with falciparum malaria. We had a lot of cerebral malaria that was occurring, a lot of people were dying and we were getting a lot of drug resistance. What the South African government did is they started the internal spraying, as the good Dr. mentioned, but they also did studies on the environment. The environmental issue they were looking at of course is the fragility of the egg casings of the raptor birds. That's what DDT was effecting. It was effecting raptor casings so that their egg casings would break and it was decimating the population of large raptors where DDT was utilized. The interesting thing is what KwaZulu-Natal Conservation Service found on the raptor casings, was that here wasn't any change. Because as the Dr. mentioned very eloquently, if you utilize the spraying, in very limited, very low doses around the areas where people live, then you will not have a negative environmental effect. The reduction of cases was more than 90%. We had a +90% reduction in the incidence of malaria in that area. If you go back there today, it's like night and day, as you can obviously see there.

To the Dr. from the Philippines, I think your idea is an excellent one. I tried to give a solution where we would train two doctors, but they have to be trained in the country of origin. If we bring them to the West and train them there, the numbers of doctors that go back to their country of origin is very low. Prior to 1989 in Ghana, there was a program to train obstetricians. As an example: Out of 40 trainees who went to Great Britain, only three went back to Ghana. After 1989, there was a cohort of 38 obstetricians that were trained. 37 of those stayed in Ghana because they were trained in Ghana. We also have to work with partners to deal with working conditions, safety, health care for themselves and being able to have the equipment and tools for the job to be able to address the problems they face.

Hon. Dr. Machungwa, you were speaking about the issue of counterfeit drugs, which is a huge problem. The WHO sets the guidelines. Interpol has done a lot of work in investigating, tracking, and finding these people, but what's very, very frustrating to Interpol is that they're not getting the prosecutions. The countries where these horrible, deplorable, disgusting companies live and reside need to be prosecuted by those countries that harbour them. They must look at this basically as murder. You and I know, as medical professionals, that using those counterfeit drugs that are ineffective or highly dangerous, in fact poisonous, kill people and this should be treated as homicide.

To the Parliamentarian from Pakistan, your idea is really an excellent one, to share information on aid that is given to the elected officials. I'll certainly take that back to Canada, as well as the suggestion from the member from the Philippines. There was another interesting corollary to that – and that is for not only countries but NGOs – that they actually pay to publish the moneys that are given in newspapers and also on the radio so that you have actually a grassroots accountability mechanism. People then actually know what was given, how much was given, and what it was used for.

We are talking about a multiple array of diseases that effect people. If we get the primary health care structure right, and work on that, then we will be able to have an effect. And I really hope

that with the great suggestions we have heard around the table today that we can put that in the missive, and that missive is going to go to the G8 leaders when they meet in a few days. We have to give them a hard, concrete series of solutions upon which they can act on.

Lastly, we have developed a website called www.canadaaid.ca. Check it out. The goal of that was to be able to link up grassroots projects, building clinics, schools, and other activities on the ground, with people who want to donate. A potential donor can go on the website, examine the options and engage those small NGOs that are doing really good work on the ground, so that they can fund them, or even work for them at some time in the future. Thank you.

[Hon. Danielle Bousquet MP, France]

I would like to talk to the person from Senegal. We should not mix development projects with immigration policy and of course we should not condone selective immigration, because there is brain drain. The skilled workers are necessary in the area of primary care, which was an example from the Philippines. Those skilled workers are being sent to developed nations, and the more brain drain, the poorer the developing nations will be. We have to take some kind of countermeasures.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Session 2 is over.

SESSION 3
Population, Food Security and Poverty Alleviation

Chair:
Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo
MP, Bolivia

SESSION 3

Climate Change and Agricultural Development

Ms. Farhana Haque Rahman

Chief of Media Relations
Special Events and Programmes of IFAD

[MC]

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, we would like to start the Session 3: *Population, Food Security, and Poverty Alleviation*, chaired by Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo from Bolivia. She is a representative from IAPG, Inter-American Parliamentarians' Group on Population and Development.

[Chair]

First, I would like to introduce Ms. Farhana Haque Rahman, Chief of Media Relations, Special Events and Programmes at International Fund of Agricultural Development, IFAD. She is a Bangladesh-born Canadian national, and she has lived and worked extensively as a communication advisor and journalist in Africa, Asia, the Middle-East, Europe, and North America. She has held several positions within the United Nations system.

Next, will be Dr. Yonosuke Hara, professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, GRIPS, in Tokyo. His specialty is in agricultural economics and agricultural development. His concurrent research is transition to the market economy in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, as well as in the history of development in modern Japan, especially agricultural development in Hokkaido and Okinawa. Dr. Hara has previously served in the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific in Bangkok, and as Director of the Institute of Oriental Culture.

And finally, Mr. Mohammad Zia Qureshi, Senior Adviser in the Office of the Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of The World Bank. He has held a leadership positions at the Bank in the past 20 years on both global economic issues and development policies at the country level. Mr. Qureshi has lead Bank teams of several flagship publications on global issues, most recently the Global Monitoring Report

2008. His country work has spanned a range of emerging market and developing countries in most regions of the world. Prior to joining the Bank, Mr. Qureshi worked at the International Monetary Fund. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Oxford University where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar.

[Ms. Farhana Haque Rahman, IFAD]

As many of you know, some of the issues that we are discussing today, together with the food prices crisis, have been discussed at the recent FAO high level conference in Rome. This brought together a large number of heads of states and governments and by doing so was able to place at the centre of the agenda the plight of poor rural people, confronted with high food prices and to refocus the attention of the international community on long-term sustainable solutions to the problem of global food security. This morning I was reading a newspaper and I found food prices again at centre stage. Mr. Zoellick of the World Bank has called on the G8 leaders to pay urgent attention to this crisis, and urged the G8 leaders to come up with solutions to meet this challenge.

Right at the beginning of my presentation, I would like to take you to Tanzania, through a video featuring an isolated community called Qash that illustrates what can happen when smallholder farmers get access to both credit and storage facilities for their grains, and how they can react to the plague of rising food prices and consequent malnutrition.

[Video] <http://www.ifad.org/photo/index.htm>

On agriculture and rural populations, rural areas of the world are home for 2 billion people whose livelihoods depend on the 450 million smallholder farms scattered across the globe, often in vulnerable and marginal lands. When we talk about 450 million smallholder farms, we are talking about the number of farms. When we

say 2 billion people, that is the number of people who depend on these farms.

Three-quarters of the world's poorest people living on less than US\$1 a day live in rural areas in developing countries, and 85% of the world's farms are of less than 2ha in size. Many smallholder farmers and most landless labourers are net-buyers of food. A large number of these farmers are women, particularly in Africa. The triple scourge of poverty, soaring food prices, and climate change, threatens the lives of these 720 million extremely poor, rural people worldwide. These people live mainly in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Women and indigenous peoples are amongst the most vulnerable. The 2008 World Bank's World Development Report has once again emphasized the importance of investing in agriculture, to meet the Millennium Development Goals. Agriculture is the proven engine for pulling women and men out of poverty. Growth in agriculture is up to 4 times more effective in reducing poverty than growth in other economic sectors. Agriculture is the single most important sector in the economies of most low-income countries, accounting for one-fourth to one-half of Gross Domestic Product. In most poor countries, agriculture is the largest employer, job creator, and the biggest export earner.

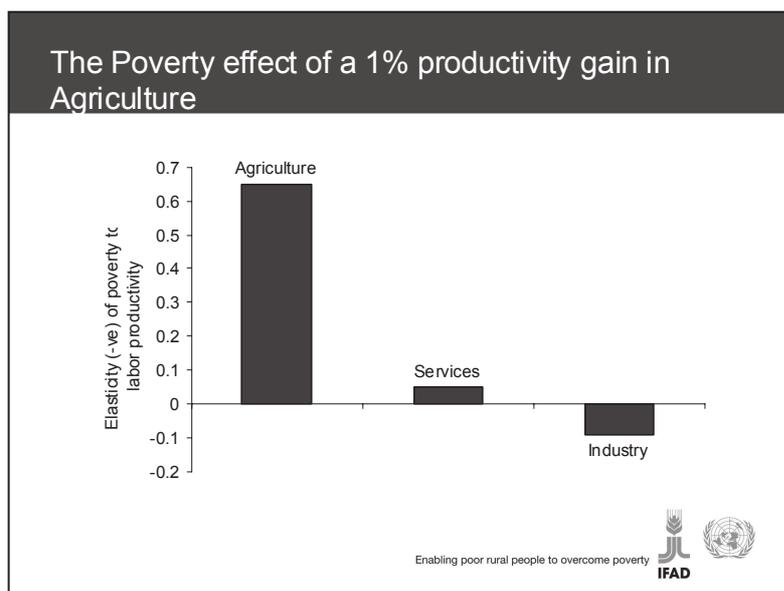
Broad based agricultural growth spurs overall economic development, since every dollar earned by farmers in low-income countries raises incomes in the economy as a whole by up

to US\$2.60. A 10% increase in crop yields leads to a reduction of between 6% and 10% of people living on less than US\$1 a day. This is significant for eastern and southern Africa, for example, where up to 80% of the region's rural population lives in areas with medium to high potential for increased agricultural production.

The experience of Europe and of the United States in the 19th century, or the miracle economies of Southeast Asia in the 20th century show that reforms in the agricultural sector have been the foundation for overall economic development and poverty reduction. Yet support to the sector remains low. The amount of ODA going to agriculture fell from US\$8 billion in 1984, to around US\$3 billion in 2006, by which time it made up less than 3% of total ODA.

What does IFAD do? IFAD focuses primarily on agriculture and helping very poor men and women, including those in remote and marginalized areas, to increase food production and earn a sustainable income, particularly through land and water management, improved agricultural technologies, production services, market access, rural financial services, off-farm employment, and local planning and programming processes. Here perhaps I should add that many of you are familiar with the Grameen Bank, which was launched by Professor Mohammed Yunus, who received the Nobel Prize a couple of years ago. IFAD was the first organization to provide support to the Grameen Bank. It supported the first two phases of the Grameen Bank, and then it became so popular everybody else wanted to support it.

More rapid agricultural and rural development is essential to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The world's poorest people are subsistence farmers, nomadic herders, day labourers, and fishers. Many live on ecologically fragile land, mountains, coastal areas and deserts. They depend on vulnerable sectors, agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry for their livelihoods. Women in rural areas, particularly those responsible for fetching water and keeping livestock, are



expected to pay a particularly high price as the climate changes.

IFAD is both an international financial institution, and a specialized agency of the United Nations. It is also an organization dedicated exclusively to agriculture and rural poverty reduction in developing countries. Its goal is to empower poor rural women and men to improve their food security and increase their incomes. Its loans and grants program has been expanding at 10% per year since 2003 and in 2007 reached US\$600 million. IFAD will provide a total of US\$2 billion over the 2007-2009 period.

On present projections, global population will grow by 20% to 8 billion by 2025 – and rising incomes and growing threats of climate change will impact food security and exacerbate malnutrition throughout the world. Cereal production in North Africa could drop by over 18%. In the temperate regions of Latin America, soybean yields are expected to rise, but in drier areas climate change is expected to lead to salinization and desertification of agricultural land. Productivity of livestock and some important crops are expected to decline. Higher sea surface temperatures are expected to cause shifts in the location of Southeast Pacific fish stocks. Coastal areas, especially in heavily populated delta regions, will be at risk of flooding.

It is clear that climate change will make reaching the MDGs much more difficult. Unless donors and governments in developing countries sharply increase investments in agricultural development and sustainable land management practices, there will be greater competition over water resources available for human consumption, agriculture, and industry, as result of changing rain patterns and disappearance of glaciers. Partly due to changing weather patterns, agricultural commodity prices are rising, and it is believed they will continue to rise in the foreseeable future. This will have enormous consequences for poor, rural people. For some it will mean new opportunities, particularly poor rural producers with access to markets. But for households that are net-buyers of food commodities, rising prices will cause serious problems.

Poor rural people can be part of the solution to climate change, but they need to secure access to land and water, as well as to financial resources and agricultural technologies and services. They need access to markets and the opportunities for enterprise that can help them diversify and increase their incomes. They also need effective institutions and the organizational power and influence required to advocate for their own needs, and take advantage of emerging opportunities.

What can be done? The World Bank estimates that agriculture and deforestation account for 26-35% of greenhouse gas emissions, yet agriculture and forestry can play a key role in tackling climate change. Afforestation and reforestation, better land management practices such as conservation tillage and agro forestry, rehabilitation of degraded crop and pasture land, and better livestock management practices, can all contribute significantly to reducing carbon emissions. Poor, rural people manage vast areas of land and forest and can be important players in natural resource management and carbon sequestration.

Our efforts to slow climate change will be more effective if we recognize their role as custodians of the natural resource base, ensure they have access to the technology and financing they need and compensate them for the environmental services they provide that benefit all of us. Any comprehensive strategy for addressing climate change must include both mitigation and adaptation.

Adaptation includes all activities that help people and ecosystems adjust and reduce their vulnerability to the impact of climate change. There is no universal way to adapt. Specific measures need to be tailored to specific contexts. Traditionally, agriculture was an adaptive activity to climate variations. Today, unsustainable land practices are no longer viable. Good adaptation strategy should build on sustainable development strategies.

Mitigation aims at reducing greenhouse gases, for enhancing the ability of nature, in particular forests, to absorb them. Carbon trading schemes need to include a way to compensate poor rural people for carbon sequestration. Support for soil conservation, incentives for sustainable production practices, payment for carbon

sequestration and avoiding deforestation, are all part of the solution.

In response to the growing magnitude of climate change, IFAD is increasingly integrating adaptation into its operations, and contributing to mitigation programs to make them beneficial to poor rural people. For example, the West Guangxi Poverty-Alleviation Project in China, supported by IFAD, is promoting the use of biomass. In 2002, the project designed 22,500 biogas tanks for poor rural households. The biogas units turn human and animal waste into a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide that can be used for lighting and cooking. As a result, over 560,000 tons of firewood is saved every year in the project, which is equivalent to the recovery of 7,500ha of forest.

In conclusion, as I stated earlier, on present projections the global population will grow by 20% to 8 billion by 2025. Rising incomes and growing demand for a more varied diet will raise the demand for food by an even greater proportion. Meeting this growing demand will require a sustained and long-term response at global and national levels. We believe that the 450 million small farms across the world can be part of this response. After all, they do feed 2 billion people. By listening to their voices when planning adaptation and mitigation processes, we can reduce the risks of climate change, while accelerating progress towards a world without poverty.

Thank you for your attention.

SESSION 3

Climate Change, Globalized Economy and Food Security

Dr. Yonosuke Hara

Professor
National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS)

It is a great pleasure for me to speak in this very important conference. Yesterday, Hon. Taro Nakayama touched upon some of the important issues, so I would like to refer to that. He mentioned that the G8 Summit meeting dates back to oil crisis in 1973 and the ensuing global recession. It's been 35 years since that first G8 Summit and Hon. Nakayama pointed out that we are now in a very similar situation as 35 years ago. I completely agree. I believe that 35 years ago the food crisis followed the oil crisis immediately.

Having said that, society has transformed immensely over these past 35 years. For one, the economy has become globalized. Since the G8 summit meetings started 35 years ago, the extent of globalization has evolved immensely. Secondly, 35 years ago we never thought that the global environmental issues such as global warming, which is on this year's G8 Summit agenda, would aggravate to such an extent. But in fact 35 years ago already, globalization of economy and environment issues were beginning to be perceived as an issue.

When we talk about globalization of economy, in the beginning of the 1970s, the Bretton Woods system ended and the fixed rate system shifted to the floating exchange rate system. At the same time it also allowed free short-term capital movements across borders, so I would say that the globalization of economy only started around the first G8 Summit meeting 35 years ago. The Club of Rome published the book "Limits to Growth" 35 years ago and at that point the global environment issues were drawing people's attention in the academic field. Now globalization of economy and the global environment issues are becoming more aggravated than people had forecasted 35 years ago.

Now I would like to go into the main issue that how the globalization of economy and the soaring food prices are intertwined. When we

think of the globalization of economy, it is characterized as financialization of commodity markets in which all the commodities become a target of investment and are traded on a global scale. One single nation cannot solve problems in market and that is what globalization is all about.

With that in mind, let us look into the background of the soaring international food prices. Again, Hon. Nakayama touched upon this point by mentioning that food tends to be a commodity that is a target of speculation. What becomes problematic is that the prices soar in a futures market rather than in a spot market. The price of oil has reached a record high and that happened in the futures market trading. Food prices are also rising. Rice prices are soaring as well and that's because the price soared in the futures market in Bangkok. So the futures market seems to be the main actor in hyping up the prices. The food prices and oil price rise in futures market since investors believe that oil and food will be in short supply in the future. As long as they have anticipation of soaring prices, the prices will continue to rise and that is the mechanism of futures.

If you look back at history, Japan seems to be the founder of the futures market. In Japan, the futures market existed in Osaka 400 years ago, during the Edo period. In Osaka, in a district called Dojima, there was a market that traded rice. The merchants in Osaka contrived of this mechanism called the futures market in order to stabilize the market price of rice. In the latter half of the 19th century, in Chicago, the U.S., the futures market of grain became more refined and sophisticated. Now that has been applied to other markets other than the grain market. That is the history of our futures market. Currently futures markets exist for currency, stock, bonds, and all these products that have been securitized

As I have mentioned earlier, in Asia in 2004 the rice futures market began in Bangkok, Thailand.

In Japan there has been discussion about establishing a rice futures market, but we haven't successfully established any of that. We need economic prerequisites to allow that mechanisms to contribute to price stabilization. Simply put, we have to have a huge market where certain commodities are traded and those commodities have to be produced all over the world. All these prerequisites are necessary for futures markets to function as a price leveller. Currently rice can be regarded as a global commodity, but in a way it is produced mostly in Southeast Asia and East Asia. Of course, there is some rice in Africa such as Nerica rice, but they are mainly produced in Asian nations. Against such backdrop of the futures market of rice, there is an influx of speculation money, which is triggering the increase in prices of rice.

If you look at the statistics, it is easy to say that the level of global inventory be it rice, wheat, maize corn, whatever that is traded internationally, is plunging. If you look at the international agricultural products market, when the inventory line decreases from a certain level and people start becoming anxious, the prices start rising. In other words, if inventory drops under a certain level, people start purchasing from the futures market, expecting the prices to get higher and higher. For example, China, Russia, India, and Brazil, so-called BRICs nations, are showing high economic growth, and a growing demand for food. This is a complicated discussion seeing as biodiesel and maize are being used as energy resources, which results in a higher demand for staples and drives prices high.

When looking at statistics, it is evident that the international price index of primary products, including energy, petroleum and agricultural products, are rising more sharply than that of manufactured products. In economic terms, the primary products and manufactured products comparative price is showing enormous change. My friend who is publishing an economic journal mentions that what is happening now is exactly the same thing that happened 250 years ago. Economic structure is presently in a hugely important transition period.

The second issue is food security on a global scale. I am sure you are all aware of these issues, but a various international organizations such as the World Bank are publishing reports of the

research on global warming and agriculture. These state that global warming will continue for the next 10 to 20 years and the temperatures will rise, so even lands in cold places become arable, which raises agricultural production. But after two to three decades we come to the point that we suffer negative consequences that would be irreversible. That's the conclusion deduced by many of these researches.

According to one study, in about 70 years from now, in 2080, global agriculture production will be reduced by almost 20%, as a result of global warming. Developing countries will suffer the consequences the most. Statistics show that due to global warming, India's agricultural production will be reduced by 40%. Many agricultural experts suggest that if the temperature during a rice producing period rises by 1 degree Centigrade, there will be a 10% yield decrease. They disclosed that it also applies to soybean, maize, and wheat. After all, crops are plants. If the temperature rises, their leaves become thicker so as to curb moist evaporation in hot, dry weather, resulting in less yield, according to agricultural experts.

So the manner in which we address these issues will become the biggest concern. Since we have all gathered here in Japan, I would like to give you a local example. In Hokkaido, where the Toyako Summit is going to be held in a week, there is a national university called Hokkaido University in Sapporo city. According to Hokkaido University's research, when global warming accelerates, Hokkaido, which is a very cold area with a lot of snow, will gain more agricultural production. On the other hand, in western Japan the agricultural production is expected to go down because of global warming. This means that within one country, global warming will cause shifting patters of agricultural production areas. In the case of Hokkaido, they cannot really welcome this new phenomenon, because Hokkaido has different compositions in soil, compared with the mainland of Japan.

Water resources are another serious problem in Japan. According to the statistics of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, from 1901 to 2000, Japan's annual rainfall has been in decline. Furthermore, thawing snow is an important water resource for agricultural production in Japan but if snow falls less with the global

warming, people are concerned that there will be a shortage of water resources.

Worldwide, water and land is deteriorating. The biggest problem is that water and agricultural land are finite resources. When we consider the food security in relation to climate change, the most serious problem is that we will face shortage of water, farmland and fertile soil. We have to take action now for the sake of future generations. The most important problem is that considering all factors, all people and each country must construct a framework to deal with these issues on a global scale.

My conclusion is that there are three principles when we take action globally. First,

“Polymorphic Free Economic Rule”; that all the countries, regardless whether they are developed or developing, should have common responsibility in order to secure food and well-being for future generations. Secondly, is that developed countries should have more burden and more responsibility towards action. Lastly, is that the agricultural facilities and structure in Japan, Southeast Asia and Africa are quite different, so the approach to secure and protect agricultural resources or water resources may differ from one country to another or one region to another and each region/country should establish their own way of protecting the environment and resources.

Thank you for your attention.

SESSION 3

Global Monitoring Report: MDGs and the Environment – Agenda for Inclusive and Sustainable Development

Dr. Mohammad Zia Qureshi

Senior Adviser
The World Bank (WB)

The main message in this presentation is the findings of the *2008 Global Monitoring Report*, which covers many of the themes that are the subject of this conference. This annual report is prepared jointly by the World Bank and the IMF, in collaboration with partner institutions, regional development banks, OECD, WTO and the United Nations.

Each year the report provides an assessment of progress and priorities in the global development agenda with a focus on Millennium Development Goals. Each year this report serves as the main agenda document at the Spring Ministerial Meetings of the World Bank and IMF. The full report is also available at www.worldbank.org/gmr2008.

The 2008 GMR provides a comprehensive assessment of the agenda for achieving the MDGs, as this year marks the halfway point in the effort to achieve the goals by the year 2015. The report integrates that assessment with a focus on environmental sustainability, and in particular climate change. A central message of the report is that the goals of development and environmental sustainability are closely related, and the parts to these goals have important synergies. Thus the report focuses on two issues: 1, the MDGs including the issue of hunger and malnutrition; 2, climate change, which is at the centre of the global development agenda and debate this year.

There are several high level meetings during the year including the G8 Summit here in Japan next week, the special event on MDGs at the level of heads of government in New York in September at the time of the General Assembly meeting, the high level forum on aid effectiveness in Accra in September, and the Financing for Development Conference in Doha in December.

So at the MDGs midpoint, where are we? The assessment in the report at the midpoint shows significant performance on some MDGs, but major shortfalls on most of the goals. The first MDG calls for reducing poverty and hunger by half. The poverty goal is likely to be achieved at the global level, thanks to a remarkable surge in economic growth in a number of countries, particularly in countries with large populations, notably China and India. However, there are serious shortfalls in fighting hunger and malnutrition, a subject that is now receiving increased attention because of increasing food prices.

The second MDG of gender parity at school seems attainable at the global level, but there is less progress on gender parity in tertiary education, and other gender-related targets. On current trends, shortfalls are especially serious for the human development MDGs and prospects are gravest in health for the goals of reducing child and maternal mortality, but significant shortfalls are also likely in sanitation MDGs.

Within this overall picture, there is considerable variation across regions and countries. At the regional level, Sub-Saharan Africa lags seriously on all MDGs, including MDG 1 for poverty reduction. South Asia lags seriously on most human development MDGs, though it is likely to meet the poverty reduction goal. At the country level on current trends, the majority of countries will fall short of most MDGs. Furthermore, fragile and conflict affected states are falling behind most seriously. On some goals, instead of progress there is regress. In aggregate, extreme poverty rose in countries in fragile situation over the past 15 years.

So it is this overall picture that led a group world leaders meeting in Davos this January at the time of the World Economic Forum, including

the UN Secretary-General, Britain's Gordon Brown and others to declare what they termed a development emergency and issue an MDG call to action. Behind these good statistics on MDGs are of course real people, and lack of progress has immediate and tragic consequences. Every week in the developing world, close to 200,000 children die of disease before they reach the age of 5. Every week 10,000 women die from treatable complications of pregnancy and birth. Malaria, which is a preventable disease, kills 1 million people a year, tuberculosis 2 million and AIDS 3 million.

To be sure, there has been progress. At the MDGs halfway point, 3 million more children under the age of 5 now survive every year, but 10 million still don't. About 40 million more children of primary school age are now at school, but 75 million still are not.

So what are the implications of this assessment for the agenda ahead? The report's message is that despite the serious shortfalls to date, most MDGs remain achievable for most countries if stronger efforts are made by the countries themselves and their development partners. This is indeed a huge challenge, but the success of better performing countries inspires and gives reasons for hope that rapid progress is achievable, such as Vietnam's achievement in reducing extreme poverty from around 58% of population in 1993 to as low as 16% in 2006.

With the world already at the halfway point, quick actions are needed. International attention associated with the MDGs midpoint makes 2008 a crucial year to generate the necessary momentum toward the MDGs, to make it truly a year of action for the MDGs, as it has been named by the international community. And the planned high-level international meetings during the year that I mentioned earlier, such as the G8 Summit next week, provide an opportunity that must be seized in order to come to agreement on priorities for action and milestones for monitoring progress.

To expedite progress toward the MDGs, to make it more inclusive and to ensure the sustainability of that progress by integrating development and environment concerns, the report proposes a six-point agenda:

- Sustain and broaden the growth momentum
- Achieve better results in human development

- Integrate development and environmental sustainability
- Scale up aid and increase its effectiveness
- Harness trade for strong, inclusive and sustainable growth
- Leverage International Financial Institutions (IFI) support, such as World Bank, for inclusive and sustainable development

I will elaborate a little bit on these points, focusing on the first 5 points. The first point that the report lays out is that strong and inclusive economic growth must be at the centre of the strategy to MDGs, especially concerted efforts to spur growth in lagging countries in Africa and elsewhere, and in fragile and conflict affected states. An immediate priority is to protect developing country growth from the risks arising from the turmoil in global financial markets and slowdown in advanced economies. Developing country growth is projected to slow in 2008 by between 1 to 1.5% points, but still remain relatively robust at around 6.5%.

The sharp rises in energy and food prices add to risk. Oil prices have more than tripled in the last 5 years. More recently, food prices have spiked with wheat, rice, and corn prices more than doubling in the past 2 years. According to preliminary World Bank analysis, the short-term impact of the rising food prices in the past 2 years could be an increase in extreme poverty in low-income countries by an average of 4.5% points. Having said this, the impact varies considerably from country to country, depending on factors such as whether countries are net exporters or importers of food and the configuration of poverty between urban and rural areas. In aggregate, the poverty impact could translate into pushing more than 100 million people in low-income countries deeper into poverty, if the high food prices persist. For 41 most affected poor countries, the combined impact of high food, fuel and other commodity prices since January 2000 represents a negative shock to GDP of between 3 and 10%, so a sizable impact.

Now countries are responding to the rising food prices, but differently. Actions must be taken to facilitate a strong agricultural supply response in the medium to long term, complimented by a sensible policy toward biofuels. From a longer-term development perspective, the rise in the relative price of food is a good thing. It creates

an opportunity to spur agricultural and rural development. As was mentioned earlier, three-quarters of the world's poor live in rural areas and depend on agriculture in one way or another. The rise in the relative price of agricultural products is also a good thing in the longer-term environmental perspective, as it raises the value of natural resources, such as land.

In the short term, however, the impact of the rise in food prices on the poor and vulnerable must be cushioned. This is best done through well-targeted safety nets, such as conditional cash transfers, food for work, or school feeding programmes. Actions that distort prices in trade and that would hamper the needed supply response, such as price controls and export bans, need to be avoided.

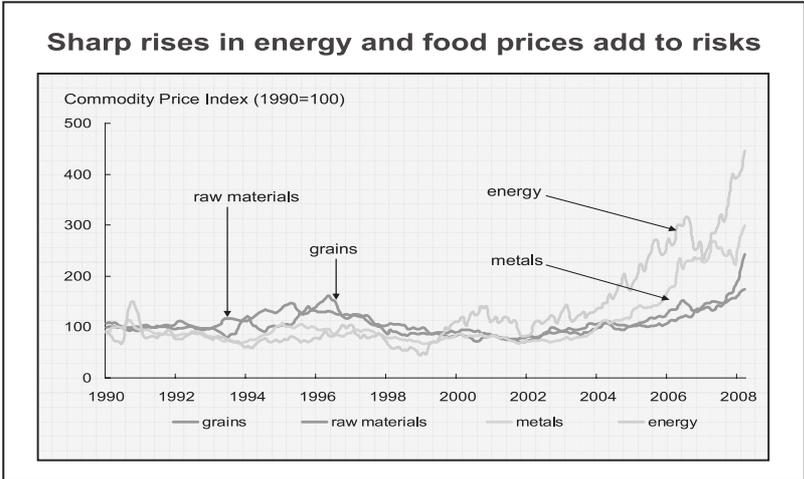
Spurring growth in Africa is a special challenge. Growth in Africa has improved in recent years, but the growth performance in the region varies widely across countries, with many lagging behind. Poor countries need to achieve annual GDP growth of around 7% to make serious dents in poverty. Only about one-third of Africa's population live in countries that have achieved average growth in that range over the past decade. While specific policy priorities for growth vary from country to country, 3 areas emerge as essential to robust growth: 1, sound macro-economic policies; 2, a conducive private investment climate, including access to key infrastructure; 3, good governance. In fragile states, improvement of the governance environment, together with security enhancement is crucial. In many countries in Africa and in low-income countries more generally, a dynamic agricultural sector is key to achieving strong growth and will help to

mitigate the increasing pressure on food prices. Achieving an agricultural green revolution should be a priority for countries in the region and their development partners.

The second point of the 6-point agenda that the report lays out is that we must pick up the pace of Human Development Goals, where the prospective shortfalls relative to MDG targets are the most serious. This will require commitment of more resources, including increased donor support to key programs in education and health. Priorities that the report emphasized include the Education for All - Fast Track Initiative, health systems strengthening, eradication of malaria and of course the continued fight against HIV/AIDS. But more spending on education and health programs alone is not the answer. The quality and equity of spending are equally if not more important. In South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, for example, public health and education spending benefit the top income quintile more than the bottom quintile by a factor of more than 2. So there's a serious issue with respect to the equity of some of the spending.

Policy interventions must factor in the strong links that exist between health and education outcomes, nutrition, as well as environmental factors, including water and sanitation, pollution, and climate change. Environmental risk factors play a role in 80% of diseases globally. Unsafe drinking water and poor sanitation and hygiene account for around 90% of diarrhea cases worldwide. More than 40% of the global burden of malaria can be prevented through improved environmental management. An estimated 1.5 million deaths annually caused by respiratory infections are attributable to environmental pollution. Based on the analysis of a range of countries, the report finds that environmental health hazards can cost countries as much as 1.5 to 4% of GDP annually – a sizable amount.

The third point of the agenda laid out in the report is that environmental sustainability must be integrated into core development work, maximizing synergies. MDG 7 underscores the strong links between



development and environmental sustainability. The report argues that environmental sustainability is necessary for achieving the other MDGs: it is necessary for sustaining long-term goals and development. Within the broad challenge of environmental sustainability, the report focuses in particular on climate change. Developing countries' heavier dependence on natural resources in agriculture and their general lack of development renders them more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and less able to adapt. The major impacts of climate change include: 1, the impact on agriculture; 2, impact on health; 3, the effects of sea level rise; 4, the increased incidence of extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, cyclones, typhoons, and droughts. On each of these 4 potential major impacts of climate change, developing countries will suffer the most and the earliest.

If climate change continues unchecked, developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and parts of Latin America, which are home to 1 billion of the world's poorest people, could suffer losses in agricultural output ranging from 15 to 60%, through to the year 2080. The poorest countries, such as Malawi, Niger, and Guinea-Bissau, will suffer the largest losses of output. In contrast, the impact on richer countries in the northern hemisphere would in general be much milder, even positive for some.

The rising sea level will have major impacts, especially on the more vulnerable countries. More than 200 million people in developing countries live in zones that will be impacted by coastal flooding at a 3-metre sea level rise. Even at a 1-metre sea level rise, a number of countries would be significantly affected and without adaptation efforts, more than 10% of Vietnam's population would be affected, meaning that the country would lose about 10% of its GDP and 30% of wetlands.

Developing countries also will bear the brunt of the increased incidence of extreme weather events and the likely impact in per capita terms would be highest in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. For instance, during the 1990's, 200 million people per year on average were affected by climate-related disasters in developing countries, compared to about 1 million in developed countries. So for developing countries, adaptation to climate change, to reduce their

vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, is vitally important.

The international community must work toward a timely agreement on a post-Kyoto framework for mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. Stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations within limits that keep the impacts of climate change manageable will require a significant reduction of carbon emissions by developed countries and curbing of growth in emissions by developing countries, with eventual stabilization in the longer-term. This mirrors the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities that Professor Hara mentioned.

That principle was agreed at the UNFCCC Climate Change Conference in Bali in December 2007, and this principle recognizes developing countries' lower historical contribution to greenhouse gas concentrations and their much lower energy use and carbon emissions per capita. However, even if total carbon emissions of developing countries are allowed to rise for some time, in accordance with the principle of differentiated responsibilities, these countries must make efforts to reduce the carbon intensity of growth by reducing carbon emissions per unit of GDP.

The need for an early and significant reduction in aggregate emissions by developed countries is clear. At present 1.6 billion people – that is about one-third of the developing world's population – is without access to electricity. The proportion of population without access to electricity is still higher in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, at about three-quarters and one-half, respectively. This implies a double challenge, reducing damaging carbon emissions, while meeting the energy and growth needs of the world's poorest countries.

The mitigation agenda will need to address both brown and green sources of carbon emissions. Globally, about two-thirds of greenhouse gas emissions are energy related such as energy consumption and industrial processes, are what are often called "Brown Issues". One-third of these is related to land use changes, principally deforestation, but also agriculture and waste, are what are sometimes called green issues. When this decomposition is done for low-income countries only, the picture is exactly the opposite, one-third of greenhouse gas emissions in low-

income countries come from energy use, and about two-thirds from deforestation and land use factors. Controlling deforestation is a crucial element of the mitigation agenda in low-income countries. An area of forest equivalent to the size of Panama or Sierra Leone is lost every year to deforestation. Deforestation is especially high in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa, it is low or slightly negative in East Asia, but the reason for that is a major afforestation programme in China is masking the continued high deforestation in Indonesia.

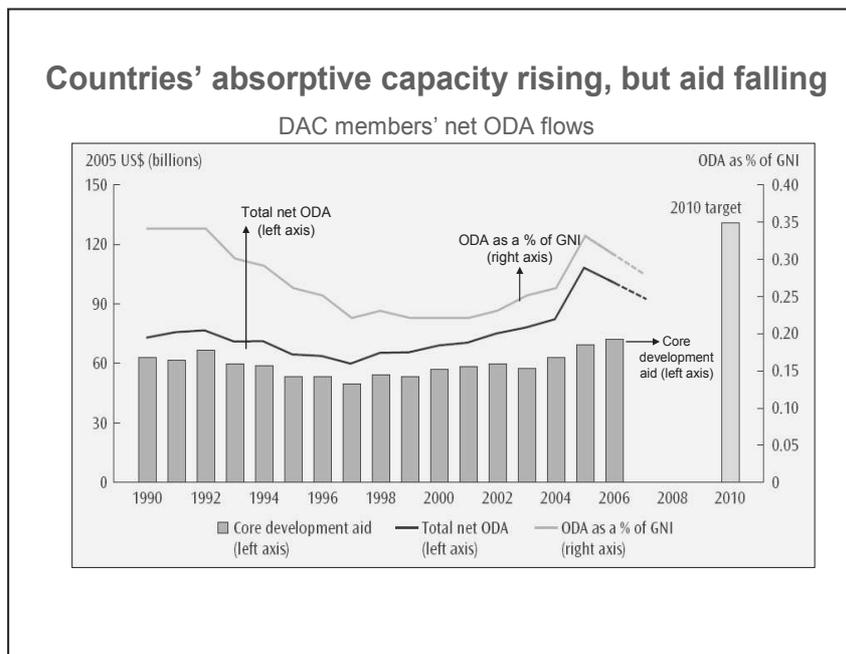
The fourth point of the six-point agenda in the report is that more and better aid is needed. Donors must expedite aid delivery. Just when a number of countries are expanding their capacity to utilize increased resources productively, thanks to their reforms, aid is stalling, indeed falling. Official Development Assistance from OECD DAC countries declined by 8.4% in real terms in 2007, on top of a 5% real decline in 2006. This trend must be reversed. Most of the increase in aid promised at Gleneagles in 2005 is yet to be delivered. Between 2004 and 2007, annual aid flows from OECD DAC donors increased by only one-fifth of the promised target for 2010, which is by only \$11 billion in real terms against a 2010 target of 50 billion. Delivering on the commitment to double aid to Africa over the same period has similarly been

slow, with annual aid flows rising by only \$5 billion in real terms between 2004 and 2007, compared with a target increase of \$25 billion by 2010. So the report's message is that the time to deliver on aid commitments to support the effort to MDGs is now.

Finally, the fifth point is in relation to trade. The report stresses that trade can and should be harnessed more effectively in order to contribute to strong and inclusive growth. The international community must aim for a successful Doha outcome in 2008. The distortion in agricultural trade policy has not been declining. The magnitudes remain high, and problematic. The current high food prices, while they raise a number of other issues that I touched on earlier, they also provide a political window of opportunity to break the impasse on agricultural trade liberalization. And going forward, trade policy should also aim to facilitate transfer of environmentally friendly technologies, by removing the high barriers to trade in environmental products and services, for example, products that generate energy in more environmentally friendly ways or use energy more efficiently. Barriers to trade in environmental goods and services are high in many countries, especially low-income countries. From an environmental perspective, the best trade policy is one that encourages the use of

most efficient environmental goods and services. Removing policies that restrain trade in such products and assisting producers in developing countries to benefit, rather than lose from initiatives such as carbon labelling, can help both to harness the potential of trade to support strong and inclusive growth, and to improve environmental outcomes. I hope the Global Monitoring Report's assessment and the agenda will be of some help in your important deliberations.

I thank you for your attention.



Comments from G8 (1)

Ms. Amy Coen

CEO

Population Action International (PAI)

It really is an honour to be here. I would like to first of all apologize that we do not have American Congress people here. It is the 4th of July weekend in an election year in the United States, and although we had three Congress people who had hoped to be here, they were not able to make it. I am hoping that its a big year for the world and that our new elections will set a new direction for the United States leadership.

I would like to take just five minutes to address the relationship between transitioning from absorbing the information and turning it to action. I am CEO of Population Action International (PAI) which is an organization that conducts research and advocacy strategies to make sure that civil society in countries and regions can move in concerted efforts to realize big goals. Whether they're the Millennium Development Goals, climate change, food security, human security, it is critical that the issues of population, women-focused development and reproductive health become part of the solutions of those greater issues. This must involve all of us working together in civil society.

Now, speaking as an NGO, I know that when sometimes they can be your best friends, there are other times when they cause you frustration. They come into your office with a very long list of what they think you need to do very quickly and sometimes quite unrealistically. I would like you to know that Population Action International works around the world to help NGOs be smarter about advocacy strategies. We want to help you understand that your world is one of compromising, vision and tenacity, and that you here are the ones who really understand how it all fits together. Also, civil society can

help those of you who have administrations in your country that are not friendly to our issues. NGOs can be incredibly helpful in that way as well.

Global strategies and countrywide strategies are becoming more and more important for the bigger issues that we have been addressing this past day and a half. That the coordinated strategy between civil society, the private sector, and our roles are key. We really need to work on how we can focus, so that we can pull more money into developing countries, so that we can increase the aid that we have so clearly talked about that is dropping.

As an American, I'm hoping that next year things will change and that we will have a leadership that more clearly understands our role. Americans are crazy voters, probably they're about the craziest voters in the world, and so in my country of over 300 million people I can't quite predict what they are going to do. There are a lot of us who are working as hard as we can so that we have an administration that is a good neighbour again to everyone sitting in this room. Let us hope that your energy will get our electorate to do the right things. My role here is to talk about these ideas that we've been hearing about and information to action. I know that you are the conduit through which that happens. So I applaud you in that effort and would like you to know that we really need to look at the entire sectors in a country, and work as coordinated. And then about developing advocacy strategies, once agreements are made, they're funded and then implemented, and we know that the agreements are just the first start.

Thank you.

Comments from G8 (2)

Hon. Dennis Kucinich

Congressman, U.S.

There are a myriad of approaches to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Targets. The MDGs are universal goals that are all for the participation and commitment of all nations. The development strategy defined by these goals is to eradicate poverty, promote and scale-up access to education and health, achieve gender equality, ensure environmental sustainability and develop a partnership for development. I would like to emphasize the role of trade through outsourcing jobs and the issue of employment standards in advancing the MDGs and Targets, in particular MDGs 1, 5 and 6 – in the context of health care access, 7 and 8 highlighting open trade, debt and poverty reduction.

Fair and open trade can be achieved through bilateral trade agreements in which there is responsibility for-and accountability to the environment and to development, which are inextricably linked. Bilateral trade agreements can ensure that environmental standards are set, implemented and adhered to through mechanisms to incentivize outsourced businesses to respect and to protect them in the areas of emissions, energy consumption, proper waste management and recycling. including introducing better practices and innovation to meet environmental standards, including access to safe drinking water and to raise them.

The practice of outsourcing jobs to pay employee salaries that are below a living wage and in violation or exclusion of other labour rights undermines development. In order to achieve a global partnership for development and in order to eradicate poverty and hunger and to reduce the proportion of people living on less than US\$1 per day, it is imperative that trade agreements are reformed to enforce decent work principles which includes the right to a living wage. Poverty and debt cannot be eradicated or reduced without employment and without access to a living wage. Workers need access to opportunities to achieve growth such as paid

educational leave. In order to improve maternal health and combat AIDS, malaria and other diseases workers need to be granted access to health care and to exercise their right to maternity leave.

Trade agreements must promote fair trade. Free trade cannot exist without fair trade. Fair trade cannot exist with the absence of human rights, the adherence to International Labour Standards and the International Labor Organization's Decent Work Agenda. The MDGs cannot be achieved without fair globalization and decent work. I urge my colleagues around the world to legislate responsibly to endorse agreements that allow for fair globalization and to protect all people from agreements that undermine development and rights.

Discussion — SESSION 3

[Chair]

We'll start Q&A session. We have Philippines, Senegal, Pakistan, Malaysia, and Uganda. First Philippines-you have the floor.

[Hon. Edcel C. Lagman MP, Philippines]

There are studies which project with a broad consensus that there are about 46 countries home to 2.7 billion people, wherein the effects of climate change interacting with economic, social, and political problems, will create a high risk of violent conflict. There is a second group of 56 countries, which in the long run – in relation to the effects of climate change – may face the same threat of violent conflict. Can we get some confirmation or reaction to this thesis? Thank you.

[Chair]

Now please, the Honorable of Senegal.

[Hon. Elhadji Malick Diop MP, Senegal]

I think we went ahead of the agenda yesterday and talked about rising prices of commodities. There is violence in Africa because of hunger, but today I think there's been a certain ray of hope. I've been inspired by useful presentations this morning, but I have one concern; Professor Hara talked about the futures market and I understand that if the inventory goes down, the prices go up. But I wasn't quite sure what inventory it was. Was it the inventory of the equity, or funds, or commodities?

[Hon. Dr. Donya Aziz MP, Pakistan]

I have one question for Ms. Rahman. You talked about the small farmers, and I was wondering if you have done any studies on how land reform would actually impact the productivity in agro-based societies. In some places where we still see people holding onto the old feudal way of life, their argument usually is that land reform will lead to lower productivity because the farmers would not be able to utilize and produce as much as the larger landholders are.

My second question is for Mr. Qureshi. I was wondering how much impact on food security and food prices are being made by black market food, distributors or handlers. What we have witnessed in a country like Pakistan, which is a producer of a lot of food items, food prices are going up despite the government's capping on prices because there is a lot of hoarding happening in the market. There then becomes a trade off with free market sensibilities that the government has in order to allow this to happen. But the people who are being hit the most are the poorest of the poor. Many times the producers of the food cannot afford to buy other food and they're locked into contracts where they have to sell the grain to the government. Middlemen are then procuring from the government, hoarding, jacking up the food prices and at the end of the day those who are actually producing cannot afford to buy back. So I'm wondering if World Bank has done any studies on how much free market is actually affecting food security. Thank you.

[Chair]

We now invite Malaysia.

[Hon. Nancy Shukri MP, Malaysia]

My first question is similar to Pakistan's. The increase of price in energy has a major impact

on the food prices. The Malaysian government has been working very hard to help the people who deserve to be given a subsidy. So with the energy price increase, we no longer have a policy on controlling the price of energy, but we are going into food security plan. I would like to know if there are any studies, or if there is any way you can recommend to us the most effective food security plan, or perhaps by the study from the World Bank?

My other question is on climate change, which also has a large impact on agriculture. Many crops have been damaged due to the rise of water levels. Have there been any recent studies made in order to give recommendations on crop regeneration? Thank you.

[Chair]

On the list are Ghana, South Africa, European Parliament, and Canada. Now we invite Ghana, please.

[Hon. Akua Sena Dansua MP, Ghana]

My first question goes to Professor Hara. We have all heard about the ominous situation of climate change and food security for the future and very important steps to be taken to address the situation. In this regard, I would like to know what the role of GM foods is for the future. I'm asking this question because we know that GM foods are foods that are grown with hormones and are fast growing, which has been much debated. In view of the ominous situation, what role do you think GM foods can play as far as climate change and food security is concerned?

My other question goes to Ms. Rahman and it's about the success story of Qash in Tanzania. We know that there are several of such small land holders or farmers in various parts of Africa, but often we only pick one or two success stories and magnify this as if these are the only ones that are worthy of emulation. How is IFAD able to help the small farmers in Africa so that they can also increase their production and take advantage of the related advantages that come with increased food production so that the world's food needs can be met?

The other question goes to Mr. Qureshi. Most of the developing countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, have a very bleak future as far as the MDGs are concerned and we know also that most of our leaders are failing us. You need

to change your strategies and you need to ensure the right things are done. The World Bank will polish their statements, their reactions and let our leaders feel as if they are on top of the world. So when will the World Bank change its strategy and begin to tell our leaders in their face that look, you are not doing the right things, the developed world is saving their moneys to come and help your people and yet when this aid comes to you, you misapply it and you don't set your priorities right. When are you going to change your strategies and tell our leaders the truth in their face? Thank you.

[Chair]

Now, I invite South Africa, please.

[Hon. Tshililo Michael Masutha MP, South Africa]

I think there's been a lot that's been said this morning that is food for thought, and one does not even know where to start in complimenting and commenting on some of the important issues. But I think we're all hoping that the American people will vote correctly, because their decisions have profound impact on the rest of the world as history has shown thus far. Which leads me to the question that I have for Mr. Qureshi: "Does the report ponder or reflect on what the core strategies at a multilateral or global level are that would make the greatest impact and lift those out as the salient, core elements of a new strategy, which perhaps even the G8 may have to seriously look at?" Because one accepts that at an individual and country level we all have to do our bit, but the reality is that there's certain key global players, whose decisions and actions have far-reaching implications, whether directly or indirectly.

And this is to Professor Hara. There seems to be a lot of focus now on the impact of biofuels on food security, but I was wondering, where has the discussion about renewable energy gone to, given the prevailing situation of increased prices in oil and other sources of energy and the greater demand for energy? Is it because renewable energy technologies remain still unsustainable economically, especially for developing countries? Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. We have now an intervention from the European Parliament Representative.

[Hon. Françoise Castex MEP, France]

I have a question for the World Bank. You talked about the MDGs and what will happen with climate change. Your presentation seemed to have been something from the observer's perspective and I thought the World Bank is the player, not an observer, in economic development. In the past examples, the World Bank tried to drive structural adjustment programs, and also you've been reducing the debts of the developing nations. Against this backdrop, what are you conceiving to implement as the World Bank? So are you going to try to work with each of the nations' governments, those who are vulnerable to climate changes? Do you have any specific projects or proposals in mind, and do you work with the NGOs?

[Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP, Canada]

My first question is to Dr. Hara. You spoke about the impact on futures speculation on food prices and we know that that has been the single greatest factor in the increase in commodity prices over the last two years. Could you offer some suggestions and solutions as to what is needed in terms of arresting the impact of this electronic speculation through futures markets on the price of commodities?

My next question is to Ms. Rahman and Mr. Qureshi. Your presentation very eloquently showed the impact of malnutrition and how we are failing in the health MDGs. Could you tell us how the World Bank and IFAD could coordinate better, or can you give us some insight into how aid can be better utilized to be able to address the impacts on the ground, whether it is supporting the micronutrient initiative that will have huge positive impact at a very low price on health outcomes, not only for maternal mortality, but also on the outcomes for children. The bottom line question is, how can aid be better utilized to be able to focus on implementing and operationalizing health initiatives on the ground that will arrest these problems and improve our ability to address the health MDGs? Thank you.

[Chair]

Now we invite France.

[Hon. Yves Censi MP, France]

Gathering from all the presentations, it is very obvious that we are facing a rather unique transformation. This was not prevalent up until a couple of years ago. The developed nations have

social mechanisms and public investments available to deal with the negative effects of climate change. As the representative of European Parliament mentioned earlier, several EU governments are using the public funds to be able to tide over these changes. Developing nations do not have a lot of funds, and so we always go back to ODA discussions. I have a question for our World Bank representative; “Trade but not aid” was one of the clichés, but there seem to be measurable changes now. Also, to Dr. Hara regarding atomic power. South Africa asked what happened to the projects to generate renewable energy, since atomic power seems to be the focus of discussion these days.

[Chair]

Lastly, Zambia, please.

[Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa MP, Zambia]

One of the things stated by Dr. Hara is that levels of responsibility for causing climate change differ across countries. The issue therefore, is that we can say that these particular countries are more responsible for climate change, but it looks like the way we are handling this is that it’s voluntary in terms of fighting reversal; It seems as if it is going to become purely voluntary.

Now, let’s come to another issue, that being the increase in the cost of food and energy, which have implications on the achievement of MDGs – especially those related to health. In the last two months, the price of petroleum has been going up. Now clearly, it’s not that consumption has been increasing every day yet, these prices are going up everyday, day in day out. Is it that all of us collectively are not capable of looking at this?

As for the World Bank, how do we begin addressing these issues? I think what’s causing this frenzy is psychological and it’s in the mind of those who are speculating and wanting to make more profit out of this. What concrete actions are to be taken to try to stop this madness? For IFAD, they’ve done some very simple and very cheap and effective projects in rural areas in my constituency. I’d like to encourage them to continue. I thank you.

[Chair]

Now Japan, please.

[Hon. Chieko Nohno MP, Japan]

We have to try to stop the soaring of food and energy prices caused by speculation. How are we to support developing countries that suffer more, and where can we get the money from to support them? To address these issues, some of the Japanese parliamentarians are conceiving an idea of international solidarity tax. ODA comes from general tax money of the nationals, but the international solidarity tax would be from special taxes such as exchange trading taxes or airline tax. Europe is taking the initiative and a number of countries are participating as a consultative group. We have formed a federation of parliamentarians on this initiative so that Japan can be committed to this as well.

I think exchange trading will be able to put a halt to speculation. The tax rate will be 0.05% and some studies confirm that if the tax is negligible as such we won’t be hampering all our regular healthy foreign exchange trading. If there’s more speculative money influx in futures market of food, we can still apply these taxation methods. I hope that each country studies this and that with a better system we can curb speculation and generate ODA money to support developing countries. Thank you.

[Chair]

I invite Ms. Rahman to answer questions.

[Ms. Farhana Haque Rahaman, IFAD]

Pakistan raised a question on land reform and if we had done a study; Ghana about whether we have other success stories; Canada on coordination; and Zambia – thank you very much for your comment on IFAD projects.

Let me first say something that perhaps didn’t come out in my presentation, and I apologize for that. Our projects, on the ground level, are not necessarily just done by us, they’re owned by the people and by the government. We are only facilitators. The cost of an IFAD supported project on the ground is about \$30 million, so while it seems small it’s perhaps not that small. It’s done in partnership with the people on the ground; NGOs who have a lot of expertise and knowledge on the group, with collaboration of other partners who are United Nations agencies and The World Bank. We try to take advantage of the expertise of each of these organizations.

I'm very glad you raised the issue of land reform. We do have a number of studies, including the International Land Coalition, it's a conglomeration of a number of bodies who have come together. IFAD hosts the International Land Coalition, and they have been doing remarkable work in terms of land reforms. As you know, it's just not a question of farmland suffering because of soil erosion and other reasons. There are also a lot of issues that relate to title, to deeds, etc. I invite you to visit their website, the International Land Coalition, if you go onto IFAD's website, www.ifad.org, you should be able to get into theirs.

On the question raised by Ghana, it's not just the success stories; We do talk about our failures as well. Sometimes things don't work, which is only human after all. And let me give you a small example of how things may not sometimes work: When the Grameen Bank first started its operations, it really got a tremendous boost with its micro-credit campaign and many organizations jumped onto this, and many others wanted us to replicate. As you know, even Bill Clinton during his first campaign in Arkansas was talking about introducing micro-credit schemes which they did actually carry out in the depressed communities in the U.S. We tried replication of the Grameen Bank in Malawi, but it had to be tailored to local requirements, and what works in Bangladesh or in Nepal, does not work in Malawi or Mali or elsewhere. It was thus learning through those experiences, and it has taken a different shape and form in every country where we have tried to replicate. I agree with you that it's not all success: there are failures and we learn from each other on how to overcome those failures.

Canada on coordination: - I think I will let the World Bank address that issue, but IFAD is working more and more on coordination with other agencies, including the World Bank. You are aware of the One UN efforts, and there are 8 pilot countries where the One UN exercise has taken. Vietnam, Tanzania and Ghana are some of them. There is a lot of coordination in the field and we are making an effort towards the One UN exercise. Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Thank you. Dr. Hara, please.

[Dr. Younosuke Hara, GRIPS]

As you know, Dr. James Tobin, a Nobel Prize Laureate in Economics and Yale University Professor, proposed a "Tobin Tax", a tax intended to put a penalty on short-term speculation in currencies. That kind of taxation on a global basis is necessary to stop the speculators from being too active, which is perhaps what is needed for speculation of food supply. I think this was the question from Senegal. The price of food is rising and since then, the stock and reserve of wheat, corn, rice and other basic food stock possessed all over the world is going down, which is the main source of the problem. Within the talking about genetically engineered food, there are still pros and cons among scientist and they have not reached any conclusion. The main issue is that we cannot figure out what kind of impact it will have on human genes in the long-term. With genetic engineering, the production of agricultural products will increase dramatically. It would, theoretically, be an effective means to address poverty, but on a long-term basis there is still some debate.

Regarding nuclear power, I myself think that nuclear power utilization should be promoted. That's my personal view.

On renewable energy: Japan is importing 90% of corn from the U.S., and in the U.S. they are converting corn from food into biofuel. As a result of that, Japan is very concerned about what will happen to the livestock feed supply, which is corn, if the U.S. suspends the export. The point I'm trying to make is that it is an either/or situation; biofuel or food. However, we must keep an appropriate balance between fuel and food and we should consider the influence on the global market when they decide which to make.

[Chair]

We invite Mr. Qureshi, please.

[Mr. Mohammad Zia Qureshi, World Bank]

I've been quite impressed by the thoughtful observations that participants have made. I'll respond to a few common issues that connect some of these questions. First, there were a number of questions which are – in one way or another – related to the rise in food prices and energy prices, in terms of what's causing them and in terms of the response and impact. Now,

in terms of the causes, there is quite a bit of work that is being done, including at the World Bank, to understand this better. There are basically two sets of questions: One relating more to the demand side, and the other to the supply side. Now with respect to food prices, it is true that in recent years there has been a relative lack of investment in agriculture, and agricultural productivity also appears to begin to show impacts of climate change through increased incidence of droughts in some areas, so the supply has been constrained.

The diversion of some food crops for biofuel production has played a role as well – again on the supply side. I think there was a question relating to the role of middlemen. The retail price includes many things and farm price is only one part of that and the middlemen play a role. The transport costs are very important, so the rise in fuel prices, energy costs, is a very important component of the rise in food prices. So there is this host of questions or factors on the supply side. Demand has been growing strongly as a result of the rapid growth in some populous countries like China and India. So it's because of all these factors that dollar depreciation plays a role as well with respect to prices, which are denominated in dollars. Now, quantifying the relative role of each of these factors is difficult, but some studies are underway, which attempt to take this discussion a little further and make it sort of more quantified.

In terms of response, there was a question also whether there have been some studies by the World Bank or others. I'll mention one or two, but before I do that, there were a couple of observations and questions relating to response to the rise in food prices. Basically, there are three types of measures that countries can take. One is the short-term measure to cushion the impact on the poor and vulnerable. Second, if there is any good sustainable way of limiting the rise in food prices. Third, how we can in longer-term support an increase in supply, raise agricultural productivity. With respect to cushioning the impact on the poor, the best way to do that would be through targeted schemes rather than generalized subsidization, which is costly and ultimately unsustainable. There are a few countries that have experimented with different modalities, conditional cash transfers is one, food for work is another, school feeding

programs with locally purchased food is another. So there are several ways of developing safety nets, but the important principle there is that they are targeted well to the target population, the poor.

Second, there are good sustainable ways of limiting the rise in food prices and some countries have done that. In some countries some food is taxed, or there are import tariffs on foods, and you limit the rise in food prices, at the same time potentially reducing some policy distortions in the system. So those would be sort of good ways of limiting the rise in food prices. There are other ways which are not recommended which is generalized price controls as some countries have done to impose export bans.

Third is the area which is longer-term: Supply of agricultural production and productivity needs to increase and that is the whole agenda of how countries working with development partners can support that. As I said, in the short-term the rise in food prices presents us with these challenges, but it also creates an opportunity to spur agricultural development and production. There is an opportunity that countries working with development partners can take advantage of. It was mentioned earlier that the World Bank produced a world development report earlier this year on agriculture. Our next world development report, coming out next year, will be on climate change, and of course the climate change/agriculture nexus would be an important element of that. The World Bank provided a study on food and fuel prices to the G7 Ministerial Meeting a few weeks ago. Yesterday, our president sent another study to the G8 Summit, which presents our latest analysis on food prices and fuel prices. It can be found on World Bank's website, so there is quite a bit of work that is being done.

Now another question was on the core strategies and priorities at a global level, with regard to the MDGs. A large part of my presentation and the report that we have copies of outside deals with that, but at this point I think there are a few issues that stand out. One is the need for a strong, coordinated, global response to the oil and food price rises, which would be an important item on the G8 agenda. There are major issues in human resource development. I said that's where the shortfalls with respect to MDGs are the most

serious, particularly in the health area, and that needs attention. Donors need to do better in delivering their commitments, regarding the aid agenda. On trade, the Doha Round is important and it would be important to reach closure on that. The climate change agenda is important too.

These aforementioned issues are some of the sort of priorities at the global level that we need to focus on. Of course, the specifics vary at the country level, but these are some of the major elements at the global level. There was a question as to what the World Bank is doing. I deliberately did get into much of that in my presentation. The World Bank of course is engaged with countries at the country level and as a partner at global level across the development spectrum, and in relation to some of these challenges that we've been talking about in this discussion such as food and fuel prices. The World Bank recently has been quite proactive on climate change, and our president has articulated a new deal for global development policy. The World Bank has put in

place a global food crisis response program to sharply increase World Bank support to countries for their agricultural development. The Bank has been very proactive on these issues at international fora including next week's G8 meeting.

On climate change, again, the World Bank has been very proactive and we have been quite active on energy through our clean energy investment framework to increase support to countries on energy, increasing energy supplies and renewable sources of energy. The day before yesterday our board approved 3 major climate investment funds to promote transfer of clean technologies and energy efficiency in developing countries, and also to support the adaptation agenda. So there's a lot that we are doing in working with partners. Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Thank you very much for your active discussion. This is the end of the session.

SESSION 4
Panel Discussion on Concrete Actions for Achieving MDGs

Chair:
Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa
MP, Zambia

Panel Discussion (1)

Hon. Dr. Shuichi Kato
MP, Japan

[MC]

This session is chaired by Dr. Peter David Machungwa, Chair of Zambian Parliamentary Network on Population and Development and also executive member of FAAPPD. Hon. Machungwa was a participant for the last year's Afro-Asian Parliamentarians' Dialogue, which was hosted by APDA. Hon. Machungwa has a PhD. in Industrial Psychology, is former Senior Head of the Psychology at the University of Zimbabwe and former Minister of House Affairs and Labour.

[Chair]

It is a pleasure indeed to preside over this session. I want to begin by introducing Honorable Dr. Shuichi Kato. He holds a PhD in Global Environmental Science. He's a former Senior Vice Minister of Environment and Secretary-General of GLOBE Japan. He belongs to the New Komeito Party, which is one of the parties in the ruling coalition in Japan right now. He has also been Director of JPFP.

Next is Honorable Dr. Sascha Raabe from Germany. Hon. Dr. Raabe holds a PhD in Political Science and Law Studies from the Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main. He was Mayor of the community Rodenbach in the Main-Kinzig District for 6 years, after which he became a Member of the Germany Parliament in 2002. Hon. Dr. Raabe is involved in various social and cultural organizations and is the Spokesperson for the SPD Parliamentary Group for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Then we have Honourable Ibrahim Sorie, from Sierra Leone. Honourable Sorie has been a Member of Parliament of Sierra Leone since 1982 – that's a good 26 years. He is Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Energy and Power. From 1982-1985, he was the former Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He's presently also leading an initiative for the Parliamentarians for Global Action Sustainable Development, Health & Population Programme.

Last but not least is Mr. Jose G. Rimon II, who is Senior Program Officer of Global Health and Policy & Advocacy at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. His primary focus is developing a portfolio of grants and partnerships aimed at revitalizing the family planning and reproductive health global agenda. He has 30 years of experience, and is a recognized expert in developing evidence-based advocacy, and communication interventions in managing complex multi-faceted international programs and in establishing private/public partnerships. Mr. Rimon has advised ministers, parliamentarians, leaders of civil society groups, top government and corporate officials on public health and reproductive health policies in Asia, Africa, and the Near East. Before joining the foundation, he was at John Hopkins University's Bloomberg School of Public Health as Senior Deputy-Director of the Center for Communication Programmes, and Director of Health and Communication Partnership.

[Hon. Dr. Shuichi Kato MP, Japan]

Currently in Japan, we have been having many more conferences in comparison with previous years and most of them revolve around the topic of the environment. In listening to all the discussions of the parliamentarians up until today, we hope that we can put together some kind of a summarized suggestion that can be put forward to the G8 Summit meeting. I was listening to the keynote speech of Honourable Nakayama yesterday, and it vividly reminded me of "The Limits of Growth" in 1972. It was actually a warning to the future of humankind, which gave me a shiver. Our earth is a limited spaceship and not infinite, so whatever happens in the spaceship has to be solved within the spaceship. We should put an end to a cowboy spirit of searching for the frontier believing in the infinite frontiers and instead we should shift the spaceship to a finite economy. By reading this book I came to realize that this was my vocation.

We are facing the risk of not being able to sustain human civilization. The risk to the ecosystem and climate is incrementing and we are witnessing depletion of resources, degraded ecosystem and global warming. About 20-30% of the bio-system will go extinct if the global average temperature goes up by 1.5 to 2.5 degrees Centigrade. It only increased by 0.74 degrees Centigrade during the past 100 years, but even in 2007 the Arctic Sea ice melted to a great extent and some say all the ice will be gone within 5 years. A long time ago, it was predicted that all the ice would melt by 2070. Recently it was said that the ice will be gone by 2040. But now, they say it will be gone within 5 years. This is an alarming situation as it goes to further demonstrate that global warming has accelerated.

As parliamentarians, we have been working towards legislating the basic act on society with an environmentally-sound material cycle and the promotion of the 3Rs; Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, which aims to work against the depletion of resources and create a sustainable society. As for the degradation of the ecosystem, we enacted basic biodiversity so that we could build a bio-symbiosis society. And for global warming we have act to promote measures against global warming, but we should also put together a basic act on low-carbon society so that we can establish a low-carbon society.

We aim to build an environmental nation by driving forward these three pillars in an integrated manner. Global warming, however, is a global issue and as our Prime Minister Fukuda mentioned, we all have to rally behind the same objective in an all-inclusive participation manner. IPCC Fourth Assessment Report mentions that the global greenhouse gas emission exceeds double the size of the global absorption. And if all mankind were to hypothetically lead a life similar to that of the Japanese, we would need 2.4 additional earths. The Kyoto Protocol is an agreement under which developed countries reduce their collective emissions of greenhouse gas, but it's only a drop in the bucket.

It now exceeds 380ppm in terms of concentration because of the human activities. We have more than 80ppm compared to the Industrial Revolution period. If the greenhouse gas emissions concentration reaches 550ppm

and if the rise of the average global temperature reaches 2 degrees Centigrade, more than 3 billion people will be exposed to climate risk. Especially those regions that comprise of vulnerable populations will be most affected by environmental change which will negatively affect the achievement of the MDGs.

IPCC Fourth Assessment Report mentions that there is a strong correlation between the increased greenhouse gas emissions by human activities and global warming. Biodiversity, the 3Rs and climate change were the three main themes discussed at the G8 Environment Ministers' Meeting that was held in Kobe. On the occasion, Dr. Pachauri, Chair of IPCC, pointed out that global warming is exactly synonymous to human security issues at the Symposium of Water and Climate Change.

At the Security Council meeting at the United Nations last year, focus was on climate change. Climate change is conducive to conflict and a traditional view toward security is changing to a wider issue including climate changes that is attributed to human security. These issues are converged into the issue of human security, which plays a significant role to advance the MDGs.

We can say the core relation between population and climate change is strong. It is beyond discussion that human element accounts for a major portion of climate change. Currently, in the world, people are exerting efforts to achieve the MDGs, one of which is to halve the poverty, but it is certain that the pressure from population is impacting these efforts negatively. They say that world population will have increased by 2.6 billion 76 million between 2005 and 2050. The CO₂ emission from developing countries only accounts for 7.6%, but if they become successful in terms of development and if the per capita GNP in the developing countries increases, CO₂ emissions will increase for sure. Let's say these people increase their income by five-fold, and if the technology does not change by 2050, the developing countries' CO₂ emission will have exceeded that of the developed countries. In 2000 the global waste was 12.7 billion tonnage, but this will be expected to be 27 billion tonnage in 2050, which is more than double the amount. Those wastes are exported to developing countries illicitly against the Basel Convention and this will negatively impact the MDGs

achievement.

When you think of these issues, it is true that population explosion negatively impacts global environment and I'm afraid that global environment degradation has a lot to do with human health issues. I regret to say, however, that our parliament does not focus much on the population issues.

Now let us look into the expenses and costs, let me give you some examples. As population increases, so too will CO₂ emissions meaning that global warming will be aggravated. According to the Stern Review, which analyzes the costs of global warming effects, the worst case scenario is that the damage will amount to 20% of the global GDP. In order to circumvent that, we immediately have to start investing 1% of the GDP annually. In Japanese Yen, that's 50 trillion Yen and an enormous amount.

To put it simply, we need a budget to combat global warming. Also according to the recent report by the International Energy Agency, in order to halve the CO₂ emission by 2050 globally, we need to establish more wind power and nuclear energy facilities and also develop saving energy housings and hybrid automobiles. We will need an additional \$45 trillion investment, which translates to a little less than 1% of the global GDP. Needless to say, it is a huge burden on international society.

This year, there was a G20 international conference that was held in Chiba Prefecture in Japan. As this is the final year of the Gleneagles Dialogue, energy technology and technology transfer, as well as finance and investment were discussed on the dual track. At this G20 Conference, former Prime Minister of UK, Mr. Tony Blair conducted a keynote speech on future framework towards 2050. He referred to the reduction of carbon emissions as a "revolution". This translates into zero emission. If that applies to developed nations, they should cut down on their energy by 100%. Unless we execute such drastic, unprecedented actions, climate will not be stabilized.

The issue is how we can procure the necessary costs. When I took part in TICAD IV that was held in Yokohama, again there was discussion on funds. GLOBE International is an international environmental forum of

parliamentarians. At the meeting held in Tokyo, we discussed how we can collect enough funds that can rectify the situation and increasing tax on the airline industry or shipping industry was proposed.

In Japanese Parliament, the extraordinary committee of the House of Councillors adopted a resolution which comprises 10 items in 2008 regarding Japan's international assistance toward the G8 Toyako Summit and TICAD IV. Hon. Wakako Hironaka took the initiative in this resolution, which is one announced by the House of Councillors. In this resolution, the first item is about ODA and the need for its increase and establishment of a numerical target. The second point is on international cooperation in order to achieve the MDGs. The G8 Summit and TICAD IV should confirm the hype of assistance to developing countries to advance the MDGs. From the human security point of view, Japan should contribute to improve health, water, and infectious diseases countermeasures. There were 8 other items that we made resolutions on from the House of Councillors. Again, this is all about cost issues. We have to come up with the solutions for how we mobilize resources to cover the costs.

Now the technology transfer issue and sectoral approach are talked about so often in the international arena. Ultimately, we do have to come back to the discussion of technology transfer and it all becomes a businesslike discussion since most people won't give away technologies for free. So again, the issues of costs come up. In this sense, we have to think of a certain mechanism to cover the arising costs.

CSR, Corporate Social Responsibility, or CSI, Corporate Social Investment, and also Equator Principles of financial institutions are being discussed. Most companies have become compassionate about committing themselves to these. Funds are not enough, neither is ODA. We do have to leverage the market mechanism. As the term "Environment Financing" is becoming more popular, we have to enlarge the flow of finance into the movement to conserve environment. Japan has 1500 trillion Yen of individual financial asset, and we also have 250 trillion Yen of overseas net asset. This has to go into the environment finance as much as possible and maybe this can contribute to financing the MDGs supportive activities.

We have to be able to avail ourselves of a certain amount of funds, and again, ODA is not enough. European nations are now taking the initiative to discuss or implement various innovative resource mobilization mechanisms. One of them is the air-ticket solidarity contribution levy. Others are international financing facilities and advanced market commitments. Also, in relevance to MDGs, although this is not yet introduced, but we do have a currency transaction development levy. In Japanese Parliament, we have established a parliamentarians' federation that works for the realization of air-ticket solidarity contribution levy.

The real economy is surpassed by the finance transaction by 3 times. As \$2 trillion worth of currency trading is taking place internationally, some suggest that such trading should be levied an international tax. Let's say we only levy 0.005% from that transaction, we can generate \$40 billion every year. So in order to drive MDGs forward, we shouldn't just depend on ODA, but we need an innovative way of mobilizing money. Japanese Parliament, and especially those parliamentarians working on air-ticket solidarity contribution levy, will further the discussion on this so that we can successfully contribute to the attainment of the MDGs. Thank you very much.

Panel Discussion (2)

Hon. Dr. Sascha Raabe

MP, Germany

Today I would like to talk about the German position and its concrete actions for achieving the MDGs. The German Government is the first OECD country that has adopted a concrete strategy for the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs. It is called “Programme of Action 2015” and entails concrete steps towards achieving the goals. It also introduces the topic of “poverty reduction” as a “cross sectoral theme” throughout the German Government involving all political departments. The programme wants to bring several – sometimes conflicting – sectors together, so it is a good approach. When the government planned to implement, they made 10 central areas for actions of poverty reduction, not only the bilateral and European levels, but also through international institutions.

The first priority area of “Programme of Action 2015” is boosting the economy and enhancing the active participation of the poor, which mainly aims to promote pro-poor growth and support economic financial and social policies of partner countries by advisory services, financial contributions, micro-credit financing for smaller enterprises, promoting the private sector, including public-private partnership project. You may be familiar with it, but money is paid to German companies that invest in developing countries and depending on the benefit of the reduction of poverty in that developing country. Just as Prof. Muhammad Yunus who received the Nobel Prize, Germany has also been involved, as micro-credit financing has been a big subject. Given the important role that women play in developing countries, this is a very good approach. Boosting economy, especially small-scale economy in developing countries is the first point.

Second is, realizing the right to food and implementing agrarian reform. This is a huge subject and we have to do more for the development of rural areas. We need to put more money in small farming businesses. This is a very strong link to the third priority area, which

is creating fair trade opportunities for the developing countries. For successful development of rural areas and developing countries, they need better trade opportunities at the WTO level. When we look at EU’s agricultural subsidies, export subsidies should have been eliminated 20 years ago. It is a shame that they are still there. They are supposed to run until 2013, if the WTO comes to a final agreement, but personally this should have been done much earlier.

With regards to agricultural reform, I think the European Union took a step in the right direction, but I feel that it is still not enough. Subsidies are not paid enough any more for the amount of the production and now it’s more linked to the farmland. But there are still a lot of trade-disturbing subsidies. It is a very complicated subject but it is an important subject if we really want to target poverty reduction in rural and developing countries. This issue has to do with the food crisis now since a lot of developing countries used to be independently growing crops and raising cattle, but they had to give up because of the export subsidies by Europe and the U.S. The EU should cut its tariff and I hope the next WTO Development Trade round will have a happy ending.

Fourth, reducing debt and financing development. HIPC initiatives were successful, but most of the developing countries are already indebted. So we really have to fulfil our ODA requirements. For Germany it is also a tough task because you may think if the economy is good, 0.7% of the GNI, but we are talking about billions and billions. No matter which party we belong to, we are committed to development and aid, so we want to reach the target of 0.7%, but we have to convince our colleagues and people in the constituency. Next year it will be another plus of 800 million Euros, and it’s fresh aid. Before, like for many donor countries, ODA rate was high because HIPCs debt relief. Now the debt relief is over, so we have to see how we get fresh money to fill the gap and even to raise

ODA. Out of the normal budget, 800 million Euros is a lot of money so we need innovative instruments, as our colleague from Japan has mentioned. Among some of the ideas, one of the most concrete one in Germany is the air-ticket tax. Tobin tax is also a nice idea, but to be honest, I fear that it's not coming in my lifetime because it's very difficult to implement internationally. I would give it my full 100% support, but we should also investigate other effective tools. We have to mobilize the money since we promised the developing countries, so if we cannot get the money from Tobin tax, we have to get it from somewhere else. For Germany the most promising is the money from selling the CO₂ certificates. This is a big hope for us. 5 to 6 billion Euros until 2015 out of selling the CO₂ certificates and we politicians want that money into ODA because out of our budget we cannot fulfil our ODA requirements.

The fifth priority area is guaranteeing basic social services and strengthening social protection. Here at the conference we have many health experts, and we talked a lot about HIV, RH, which is also an area of priority for Germany. But we also, as parliamentarians recently made resolution to focus on social security in general. We are proud that our government is implementing it now. This starts with health insurance system and ends with the pension system. I think it's also important for us to help developing countries to develop the pension system later on because in 20 or 30 years they will face the same problem as Europe does already. You'll have many more elderly people and less young ones coming. One of the reasons that people have many children is that they expect their children to support them in their old age. Therefore, if you have a pension system, people would not need so many children. So we would like to focus on that and put more efforts into the social security system, health insurance and pension systems that would help the poor.

Sixth, ensuring access to vital resources and fostering an intact environment. We are working on renewable energy and a lot of ODA goes into renewable energies for developing countries so that they can be independent from oil energy. Also energy is important to fight poverty since sometimes women have to walk hours to get firewood. If they have other means to make fire, they save a lot of time. We are also strong about

the protection of tropical rain forests and we are also taking new approaches by making new resolutions on compensation funds, for example. Countries that do not use their natural resources, like Ecuador, could get half the revenue that we would have gained by exploiting natural resources and this way they can protect their rain forest and at the same time make money. They have the right to use the natural resources as Europeans did before, but if they don't in order to protect them then we would like to offer something since they need the funds to develop their social programmes. We think that it is our social obligation to help within this field.

Seventh, realizing human rights and respecting core labour standards. We should implement this in the WTO. Trade regulations and standards are important, and it's not just the question of child labour. We appealed to international companies and it resulted in the Global Compact and more CSR, but it's not enough. If companies can export goods, if they comply with the core labour standards, then people in developing countries would be much better off. That's what we support.

Eighth, fostering gender equality, and ninth, ensuring the participation of the poor in social, political and economic life and strengthening good governance. It is very important for us to support decentralization and democratization. Poor people need to learn how to participate in the political process and bring their interest to all political levels starting from the local community level to the federal level. In Germany, all parties have instrumental political foundations which do a tremendously good job in this field. They are financed by taxpayers money and provide a good platform for civil society groups and people in developing countries to give advice and bring democracy and human rights into those countries.

Also, we give advice on how to establish a good tax system since many developing countries lack such. A good tax system would bring more money from middle and upper income classes. Also, a lot of reform on the legal system is needed in developing countries. With transparency, corruption is not easily possible. Budget and financing rarely make sense without democracy or participation of the poor. As the colleague from the European Parliament said earlier, funding needs ownership but in many

countries it is the ownership of the rich. It's important for the poor to be able to have ownership in democracy as well.

Lastly, resolving conflict peacefully and fostering human security and disarmament; Germany has provided a lot of development aid in peace processes. For instance, we send trained civilian peace service people to reconstruct the

area. We work to prevent conflict and also in post-conflict situations. This is a good approach since if there is civil war the MDGs cannot be achieved. So this is a very important part of our Programme of Action 2015. In 2015, we hope to have achieved what we would like to achieve and then we don't need development politicians any more.

Panel Discussion (3)

Hon. Ibrahim Sorie

MP, Sierra Leone

I would like to give a short summary of where we are now in Sub-Saharan Africa, which will be followed by what needs to be done in order to attain the MDGs, especially within the context of Sierra Leone. I would like to share with you Sierra Leone's experience, demonstrating how conflict puts additional burden on moving toward the nation's development. We have to take this as an opportunity for a longer-term development. My presentation will conclude by making recommendations to the international community to make the achievement and development of the MDGs become a reality.

At the Millennium Summit in 2000, 189 UN Member States ratified the Millennium Declaration, a UN General Assembly Resolution agreeing to achieve a set of 8 MDGs by 2015. At the World Summit in 2005, implementation of the Millennium Declaration was reviewed and agreements were made to invest more in the MDGs through increased funding to support institutions and interventions.

2008 marks the MDGs midpoint period calling for a scale-up by policymakers towards the achievement of the MDGs in both partner countries and donor countries. But how can policymakers scale-up? Policymakers can scale-up by placing the MDGs at the core of national policy. The MDGs will not be achieved as a residual effect – they must be targeted. Policy priorities and resource allocation must be MDG-oriented. As policymakers, we must understand our role in advancing the MDGs within a country – regionally and globally.

Before presenting concrete actions that Sub-Saharan Africa can take, let us remind ourselves of the reality: Most Sub-Saharan African countries are less developed countries or the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and therefore aid-dependent. It's the region afflicted by severe hunger and diseases, illiteracy, poverty and political instability. The region has both failed our fragile states, with high unemployment, high infant mortality and

morbidity, with insufficient economic and social infrastructure and low agricultural productivity. Sub-Saharan African is largely a primary producer of raw materials. Inequitable balance of trade makes the region the least developed region in the world. That's the reality of Sub-Saharan Africa. 41.1% of the population is living on the income of less than \$1 per day and there has not been significant reduction since the 1990 figures of 46.8%. HIV prevalence is around 59% and over 62% of the urban population are living in slums. The unemployment rate of young people aged 15 to 24 in the new millennium has been steady at over 18% and aid from OECD countries remains at a very low level. If we maintain the current rates, we are not likely to meet the targets to make a difference in the lives of the people. There may be some countries that will meet some of the targets but a wide spread effect to make a significant improvement on poverty is not likely unless we take bold measures now. A lot of focus has been put on Sub-Saharan Africa, so we need to wake up and be ready for the achievement of the MDGs.

For advancing some suggestions, let me take the case of Sierra Leone. Sierra Leone for the past three to five years has been stuck in the last rank of the UN Human Development Index. We have been in war for the past 10 years and I think most of you have heard about conflict diamonds, or blood diamonds. Some of you may have seen the atrocities on the news. So we are a typical Sub-Saharan African state that has to meet the challenges of the MDGs. Sierra Leone is faced with the problems of healing the scars of the civil war, while rehabilitating the state. We need functioning governance and mechanisms of efficiency, and participation of all as well as the economic, social and political wellbeing for all. The MDGs can be an appropriate indicator to measure our progress.

First is the issue of political governance. We have to facilitate reconciliation and rehabilitation through the implementation of the

recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). A new poverty reduction programme is now being finalized in Sierra Leone. What it will take to achieve the MDGs and sustain development is an investment in human resources and development of infrastructure and institutions, which amounts to US \$19 billion that will be required for the rest of the period. Our current annual aid flow is less than US \$400 million. Admittedly, not all of this has to come from outside and private foreign investment can account for a significant part of this. The problem is on a medium term, the public sector must meet the initial necessary investment, so we have to rely on aid flow.

It is often argued that our absorptive capacity will have to reach the certain levels to meet the needs, and that is true to all Sub-Saharan African countries. We say it is a fallacy. This is partly explained by the case of Botswana where, in the year of gaining independence, the number of university graduates was reported to be less than 10. In this case, with the judicious use of technical assistance, the country was able to make use of foreign aid. The same is possible for Sierra Leone.

The priority area will be infrastructure, including energy, agriculture, and human resource development. This will boost export and also economic activities. The development of infrastructure will have a significant effect on the economy, energy and transportation. In regard to energy, our country is in crisis. For instance, last year we could produce only part of the electricity for the city.

Then what do we need as the least developed country? Like all other Sub-Saharan African countries, we need to bring democracy and good governance. These are some of the concrete actions that Sub-Saharan African countries have to take to reach the MDGs. We have promoted the rule of law and protection of human rights; We are committed to decentralization of power from the centre to the localities, and we encourage people to participate in the state governance through decentralization. We now have liberalized economies and we are moving toward a regional or sub-regional integration, such as the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS). We focus on the integration having a common market or having a

region without borders like Europe. The same ones are Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC).

For Sub-Saharan Africa in order to achieve the MDGs, eradicate poverty, reduce unemployment and improve the living standard of people, we should work on conflict reduction, prevention and peace building. I'm happy to report that over the past 4-5 years the region has experienced low levels of war – apart from Sudan, Somalia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The rest of Sub-Saharan Africa is enjoying relative peace and we are working toward the achievement of the MDGs.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, if we are to achieve the MDGs, we have to work in close partnership with our development partners. This is what we have been doing as the region implementing the Poverty Reduction Strategy papers. We have worked closely with our development partners at both bilateral and multilateral levels, including the UN, World Bank and IMF.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, we are aware that we have to improve the health of women and children, the education of women and children and strong advocacy for women's rights. There is the commitment from the Abuja Declaration to allocate 10 to 15% of our national budget to health and agriculture respectively. We are committed to the Paris Declaration for Aid Effectiveness and accountability.

As the sub region, we are instituted and legislated with the existence of an anti-corruption commission and there is now more accountability. The governments are now held accountable by their respective citizens. We are working on public sector reform. In Sub-Saharan Africa we continue to work on security reform, public financial management reform and we are setting-up environmental commissions for the protection of environment. We embarked on sustainable mining practices and environmentally friendly farming methods. These are some of the measures and concrete actions, demonstrating that Sub-Saharan African countries are working toward meeting the MDGs.

There are new challenges that have been introduced in the process of meeting the MDGs,

that is, rising food prices and oil prices. There need to be concerted international efforts, to make sure that 2008 and upward will not be lost decades similar to those we experienced in the 1980s, and 1990s, which were officially dubbed the “Lost Decades of Africa”. We can be successful with the implementation of the World Bank- and IMF- prescribed Structural Adjustment Program (SAP).

With this, I think Sub-Saharan Africa is on its way to achieving the MDGs and we will continue to embark on public reform packages to make sure that we are not left behind. We

need to make sure that Sub-Saharan African lifts itself up from being the least developed region in the world to make it one of the most dynamic, economically-strong, regions or sub-regions in the world. We have what it takes to be strong; we have an abundance of raw materials, we are endowed with natural resources, we have human power. All it takes is for us to be efficient and work cooperatively with the international community.

With that, thank you very much for your patience in listening to my presentation.

Panel Discussion (4)

Mr. Jose G. Rimon II

Senior Program Officer, Global Health Policy & Advocacy
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

Before I go into my assigned topic let me just say a few things about the Foundation. We at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation operate on the core principle that all lives have equal value wherever they are lived.

Our goal is to help every person get the opportunity to live a healthy, productive life. And finally, in the area of global health, our President has stated that most of our investments are made in order to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals in health.

Having said that, let me share with you 2 observations. The first is that when you look at the role of overseas development assistance (ODA) in the global architecture (as per the Cairo ICPD definition), it's only expected to contribute around 33% to global health. Where's the rest coming from? The rest is expected to come from the recipient countries themselves, from the communities, from the families, from the resilience of that country and its people.

I say this because, in my opinion, global health is a shared responsibility — the donor countries, the recipient countries, the international NGOs, the local civil societies, the foundations, and the private sector. All of us share responsibility. It's not just the responsibility of the rich countries. It's not just the responsibility of the donor countries.

The second observation is that when you look at the World Bank data on health expenditures, you will be surprised to know that 70% of health expenditures in low-income countries come from the private sector and a huge chunk of that from out of pocket expenses, from the families themselves. Out of pocket expenses range from 80% in Sub-Saharan Africa to 97% in South Asia. So here again, when we talk about health expenditures, let's not forget that the largest part of the expenditures come from the people themselves.

With those 2 observations, let me now go to my presentation. The assigned topic is "*Achieving the Health MDGs Through a Revitalized Family Planning and Reproductive Health Programme*". So let me ask the central question: "Can we achieve the health MDGs without a revitalized family planning reproductive health agenda?" Can we do that? There is a growing body of evidence showing that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to achieve the health MDGs without this revitalized agenda.

Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan stated, "The Millennium Development Goals cannot be achieved if questions of population and reproductive health are not squarely addressed".

Your colleague from the British Parliament, the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Population Development and Reproductive Health commissioned research studies and conducted hearings in 2007 and came up with the report "Return of the Population Factor: Its Impact Upon the Millennium Development Goals". I believe this is available on the web. The conclusion of your fellow Members of Parliament, from the All Party group in the UK, is that the "lack of access to reproductive health information and services, leading to high fertility and subsequent population growth, especially in poorer countries, pose significant challenges to the attainment of health MDGs".

Another prestigious peer journal, *The Lancet*, a highly credible source among scientists around the world, made a special issue on sexual/reproductive health, and in one of its articles co-authored by the distinguished Professor John Cleland, observed that promotion of family planning in countries with high birth rates has the potential to reduce poverty and hunger and avert 32% of all maternal deaths. It would also contribute substantially to women's empowerment, achievement of universal primary schooling, and long-term environmental

sustainability.

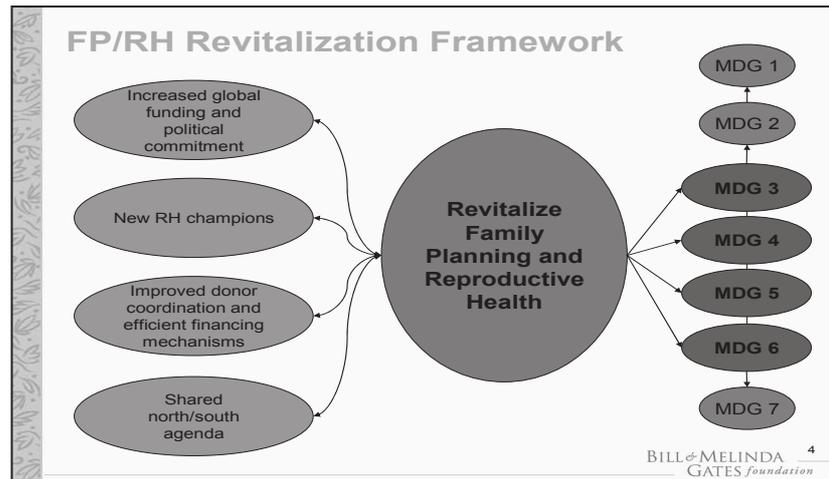
And I think all of you know by now that as a result of advocacy from all of you and from the civil society, there is now a new MDG target within the maternal health goal (MDG 5), universal access to reproductive health by 2015.

I would like to share with you one framework in terms of looking at this revitalization. Revitalization would certainly be more than this, but it would mean increased global funding and political commitment at all levels, not just the donors. And probably the identification and activation of a new generation of reproductive health champions in both the donor countries and recipient countries.

Revitalization also means improved coordination and more efficient financial mechanisms. Our German colleagues for example, have been active in the areas of insurance schemes, social security, and other innovative ways in which to address particular financial issues so that it's not just free programming all the time, but encouraging people to take the responsibility and ultimately achieve self-reliance in terms of their own health. We also need to develop more creative and efficient ways to procure contraceptives worldwide (e.g., minimum volume guarantee mechanisms) and to pre-qualify generic drug manufacturers through WHO.

Finally, we need a shared North/South agenda, in the sense that there is a shared responsibility for all between the North and the South. If we do all of the above, then perhaps we can revitalize the family planning reproductive health agenda, which would directly impact on MDG 3, which is women's equality, MDG 4, which is child health, MDG 5, which is maternal mortality, and MDG 6, which covers infectious diseases particularly HIV/AIDS.

Now let me go through specific evidence related to achievement of health MDGs. First MDG 3, gender equality. In the same report from your colleagues in the UK, it observes that the ability to make decisions about child bearing is key to creating gender equality. It is central to the



autonomy of women to be able to have the right to access information and services and to freely determine the number and spacing of their children. Access to contraceptives and FP services allows them to be able to do that.

In the area of child mortality (MGD 4), children spaced less than 18 months apart are 2 to 4 times more likely to die than a child born after a 36 month interval. But not only that, many of you here who are experts in this field probably have heard of "The Four Toos". When a mother gives birth **too early** it could be dangerous to the mother and to the infant; **too soon**, when it's not properly spaced; **too many**, when it's beyond the capacity of the mother's health to sustain; and **too late**, if the birth was given at a very late age. These "Four Toos" all have an impact in terms of mothers and children surviving.

In MGD 5: maternal mortality, again UK-commissioned research shows that due to high fertility rates and population growth, efforts to improve the health infrastructure still do not meet the needs of women in childbirth. Access to family planning for those who do not want to be pregnant would contribute a 31% reduction in maternal mortality.

Let me just show you the evidence. There are now 200 million women with an unmet need for contraceptives. Of this 200 million, 60 million experience unwanted or unintended pregnancies. Of that 60 million unintended pregnancies, 26 million experience induced abortion, 8 million experience miscarriages, 26 million result in births. In terms of induced abortion, 18 million of that is unsafe. As a result of that you have 63 thousand unsafe abortion related maternal deaths. And you have 104 thousand maternal deaths

from obstetric complications as a result of miscarriage, and 1.6 million infant deaths resulting from unintended births. If you look at the statistics, 31% of total maternal mortality and 22% of infants dying can also be prevented by access to family planning and contraceptives.

Finally, MDG 6 – combating infectious disease. In my limited time let me just illustrate one particular aspect of HIV/AIDS, the issue of mother-to-child-transmission. In a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention among pregnant women receiving ARV treatment in Uganda, 92% reported that their pregnancies were unintended. This is very high. Unintended pregnancies can be prevented through contraception. Between 1999 to 2006, contraception averted more than 10 times the number of HIV infected cases in Sub-Saharan Africa, compared to just providing ARV drugs to pregnant mothers. Contraceptive services in mother-to-child-transmission programmes could prevent twice the number of child HIV infections and three times the number of child deaths than MTCT programs alone. Linking HIV and contraceptive services is cost effective and contraceptive services can avert 30% more HIV positive births by preventing unintended pregnancies.

Now let's look at how to frame the FP/RH agenda. Framing is very critical. You win your elections by framing your issues. Almost all nationwide demographic health surveys show that approval and support for family planning is uniformly high in all countries around the world. Yet, some politicians seem reluctant to be publicly identified with the issue. In the case of the Philippines, which is 80% Catholic, research conducted by Population Action International in coordination with the local legislative group for population and development, actually shows that if the people perceive a candidate for any office (local or national) to be supportive of family planning, the voters are more likely to vote for the candidate.

Between 1960 and 2008, contraceptive prevalence has gone up, from 9% to 45% in developing countries – excluding China. Despite this success however, 200 million women worldwide still express unmet need for family planning. There is a political constituency for unmet need for family planning in most countries around the world. It can range from

15% to 40% depending on which country you are in, and that's a political constituency.

Now you can look at it from many different angles, depending on the reality, the cultural aspect, the politics in your own country. You could position it as a pro-poor program, or a means toward increasing child survival (because it actually saves lives of children), or you could position it in terms of safe motherhood or as women's rights, or a combination, or in terms of sexual and reproductive health, or position it as human rights or quality of life or human security, or even in terms of sustainable societies. FP/RH can be a powerful advocacy platform if positioned well in the context of the culture and realities in a given country.

“Family planning could bring more benefits to more people at less cost than any other single technology now available to the human race”. Now if this statement came from UNFPA, I would not have believed it because it would appear like self-congratulatory statement, but it came from UNICEF, in the *“State of The World's Children” in 1992.*

Finally, achieving health MDGs provide a unique platform for the growing convergence of interests among donors and developing countries. Achieving the health MDGs is in the strategic interest of all of us. After all, we all live in interdependence in the same earth.

In summary, revitalizing the family planning and reproductive health agenda is essential to achieving the health MDGs and will have significant impacts on poverty, mortality, and disease. Thank you very much.

Discussion — SESSION 4

[Chair]

I think we are now ready for some interventions from the floor. I'm going to politely ask colleagues to be very concise with their questions so that we can get as many people as possible to intervene.

[Hon. Saudatu Sani MP, Nigeria]

My presentation is actually going to focus on the

way forward. We have heard how other countries have worked to attain MDGs. I want to limit my presentation to the function of parliament in the attainment of the MDGs. If you look at a country like Nigeria of 140 million people, we have established an agency specifically for MDGs. We have the needs the PRPS, we have channelled the debt relief to specifically work on the MDGs, we have a committee now created in the Senate and the House of Representatives specifically for MDGs, we have done everything that now works towards attaining MDGs. But, there are other challenges that will mar the attainment of MDGs.

First, we have the energy crisis. Nigeria put out a lot of oil, but we have many poor people in Nigeria. Because we have many poor people, energy is very expensive, so we have to cut down trees. 70% to 90% of rural women use firewood for our cooking, so we're still cutting down trees. They'll still continue to cut trees unless there are other sources of cheaper energy. 25 kg of gas used to cost 2,500 Naira, now it's 10,000 Naira. It cannot be accessible or affordable for poor people. Now we're talking about renewable energy, we are talking about use of ethanol, are we going to use sugarcane, or are we going to use corn? This is still compounding the issue of energy.

Then what is the effect of poverty on children and what is the effect of poverty on families? I agree with the gentleman who last spoke from the Gates Foundation that the countries also have to do something. Yes, most countries in Africa are doing something, but they are poor, there are other challenges that is not meeting the needs of the people. Poverty is very, very serious when it comes to us as a country attaining the MDGs. How do we reduce the effect of food crisis and poverty on poor families, especially children? What do we do about women who cannot have access to basic education, basic health services and family planning – what do we do?

As parliamentarians, apart from looking for support from the G8 countries for developing countries, we need to look at the support from G8 parliamentarians to parliaments that are in developing countries. My colleague from Sierra Leone has made it very clear that we in the African and Asian Parliaments are ready to monitor our countries for the attainment of

MDGs. But sometimes we have a weak parliament. Our parliaments are weaker than the executives. In Nigeria, we are 360 members in the House of Representatives. 260 are new and only 100 are existing members, so we need to continuously build the capacity of Parliament. We need the capacity to build and we need the technical input in our parliaments to be the watchdog of our various governments. We need to establish an e-parliament on MDGs, population and sustainable development. It may be another way of talking to ourselves to look at how we can monitor MDG commitments.

Then, I want to support my sister from Ghana, who said we should continuously engage governments on their commitments. G8 countries that have promised x amount of support make public those that have given the commitments and publish those that have not been able to do so. And also do the same to receiving countries to ensure tracking and sanction corrupt leaders, not the country, because the people have a right to develop, and they should not be sanctioned.

[Chair]

Thank you, now an intervention from our colleague from the Philippines.

[Hon. Edcel C. Lagman MP, Philippines]

Most developing countries are confronted by two ballooning problems: One is an expanding or exploding population growth, and the other is a spiralling debt service, which would take possibly 30% to more than 50% of national budgets. Given this backdrop, let me relate the MDGs to the debt relief nexus. More specifically, for amounts appropriated and utilized by debtor countries in achieving MDGs, a corresponding amount should be deducted from its debt stack by a concerned creditor country. In this case, there is no need even for fresh funds to be given to the debtor country in achieving the MDGs, but the existing obligation can be used for a corresponding amount by the debtor country so much so that its debt stack will be reduced. This would be the MDGs and debt relief nexus. Most probably we would like to get some reaction from Dr. Raabe on this particular proposition. Thank you.

[Chair]

Uganda, then to India.

[Hon. Sylvia N. M. Ssinabulya MP, Uganda]

I thank all the presenters for their good presentations on the way forward. I think one thing we need to do, or to put emphasis on in Africa if we are to achieve the MDGs, is something to do with the governance issues in strengthening institutions to fight corruption. We've seen very good policies being put in place to attain the MDGs. We've seen even donors committing resources towards those programmes, but what is happening on the ground is that not all these resources are channelled to the intended programmes they're supposed to be channelled into.

Personally I believe that even with the little resources we have as African countries, we would be seeing much more gain in attaining the MDGs if countries were committed to fighting corruption. So we need to see that governments show more commitment to fighting corruption, strengthening institutions, like the inspectorates of government and parliament; see our accountability committees being more effective and trying to bring corrupt officials to account for the resources and commit more funds to strengthen the judiciary in sight of that corruption cases are quickly tried and prosecuted. Otherwise, we shall continue to demand resources. The resources will come as the donors commit more resources, but institutions on the ground may fail Africa in realizing the attainment of the MDGs. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

[Hon. Paul Sebastian MP, India]

I am coming from an Indian state Kerala, which was able to achieve many of these goals well ahead of time and we were commended by the United Nations bodies also for achieving all those things. But now a strange situation has arisen in my state, which I am bringing attention to, to show that there are unforeseen situations and circumstances in different parts of the world. In Kerala, the Catholic bishops have now called upon the community to have more children, just for the purpose of setting off the population of Muslim community. I think it is an irony of democracy in a parliamentary democracy where words and seats are more important. The so-called "enlightened clergy" is offering incentive for the Catholics/Christians if they have more than 3 children three – that is the target fixed by the bishops there.

Another thing, in order to achieve the MDGs, monetary support is very important for achieving all these goals in time. But what is the impact of the present spiralling inflation on these projects? I very much doubt whether any country can achieve any of these goals by the targeted year of 2015. We have to take into consideration that aspect also while fixing the target and try to look for the means to achieve those goals by the targeted year of 2015. Thank you.

[Chair]

Please do come in Ghana.

[Hon. Akua Sena Dansua MP, Ghana]

The first point I made was on corruption and it is a big issue that is eating deep into the development of our various countries. The international community will have to devise a way, of strengthening parliament and the accountability of institutions. In Ghana for instance, the Public Accounts Committee has been created, with Canadian Parliamentary support and the rippling effect has been so much so that many of the ministries, departments and agencies are sitting on their toes now. They want to make sure that everything they do is transparent, and that Government's resources are utilized properly. I think that if we are able to do that in many of developing countries, the resources that we commit to development will be effectively utilized.

The other point has to do with the prioritization of needs. Again, in most of African countries you realize that the majority of the people maybe still need basic health, nutrition, or roads, or markets in communities to help the people to improve upon their livelihoods. You find that our Presidents, our Prime Ministers are erecting presidential palaces, acquiring large fleets of cars that really do not serve the needs of the people. If the G8 are such very international high-level fora, our Presidents should be impressed that it's for the sake of the people. They should learn to serve the people first, because it is the people that they have been put in this position, so they should learn to prioritize their needs.

The third point is that the donors and international NGOs should devise a means of getting to the communities. I'm saying this because if you look at the MDGs and all that we

have before us, a lot of work has to be done at the community level, but many of them come and they want to do business with government. At the end of the day, the resources and strategies that they bring end up in the ministries or the presidential offices, and before these things eventually get down to the people, a lot of time is lost and a lot of resources get stuck somewhere. So let us devise a means of getting closer to the communities. I'm sure that if we try, we will find very reputable NGOs and civil society organizations that are operating at the grassroots levels, which cannot come up by themselves to assess the resources at the central government level. We should also try as much as possible help these people because they are there making the difference at the grassroots and it is the totality of their efforts that will develop our various nations. Thank you very much.

[Chair]

Lastly, our Honourable Colleague from Bolivia.

[Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo MP, Bolivia]

I want to speak about the one big problem in Latin America which is the influence of the Catholic Church. That is a big problem for us and many states don't have the distinct separation between state and the religion. Of course we are working to separate the religion and the government, or the state. Because of this we have many problems with family planning, human rights, women's rights and particularly reproductive rights.

My second point is not directly a problem, but I want to know what the European Parliament will do about the immigration "Return Directive"? That is very sad for us as developing countries. Thank you.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Please do come, Kenya.

[Hon. Charles Keter MP, Kenya]

My colleague from Sierra Leone has already elaborated on our most of issues, so I'm very particular about the role which we can take to establish maybe the youth centres, because I realise that our parliaments – if we don't take care – will be a parliament of young people. I joined politics at the age of 32. It's my second time now and I'm still below 40. Quite a large percentage of Members of Parliament from

Kenya are below the age of 40 – about 50% – and that is a trend which is changing. I am concerned because if we don't strengthen the youth and strengthen the institution, regardless of how much we develop other areas, it won't work. During the last elections in Kenya we realized that we had a problem and the young people took to the streets, who almost took over the leadership in Kenya. So I want to thank the UNFPA for their role in Kenya, as they are doing a commendable job especially in establishment of the youth centres, but my concern is to strengthen them. Thank you.

[Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa]

I don't see any other indications for intervention at this juncture. I'm going to ask our resource persons to respond, beginning with Dr. Raabe. I do apologize on behalf of Honorable Kato, that he had commitments, so he has already left. Then we will hear from Honorable Sorie and finally, Mr. Jose Rimon will respond.

[Hon. Dr. Sascha Raabe MP, Germany]

I think I can make this short. I am a Catholic myself the role of the Catholic church is really proving to be a problem concerning reproductive health and also their view of abortion, etc. In Colombia they even ostracized an 11 year old girl who was raped and everybody was very upset. I talked with a local church in Germany and I was about to say: "On the one hand we give you development aid to help poor people, but on the other hand, you have a totally contra-productive effect with this type of approach you have". The Catholic Church is really very stubborn. I would say, the church services themselves in developing countries are really doing good work and they have good projects. However, the Vatican, starting with the German Pope – I'm not too proud about what his position also in regard to reproductive health is, so I just hope the old men change their mind one day.

Second, about migration Europe – my colleague could answer this better. I can only agree with you. I think its not right that people are treated as criminals just because they don't have papers. I think it's totally unacceptable by Germany, including all other countries. I cannot blame the European Union because it's consisted of the member states, so it's not their fault. I think I'm much more liberal with migration than maybe even my own government is and I think that

people who don't have papers should not be treated as criminals and they should not put into prison. That is my opinion.

[Chair]

Thank you very much. Honorable Sorie, please.

[Hon. Ibrahim Sorie MP, Sierra Leone]

I think we are making strides. We are fighting diseases, as Roll Back Malaria is doing a very important program in the sub-region. We are improving our economy and we've liberalized our economies. As for the promotion of human rights and empowering women, we have all over the continent the proliferation of women organization to strengthen women. We recommend the setting up of MDGs committees in our parliaments. For the international community – I believe we should continue to work as partners and maybe increase the aid flow with less benchmarks, or with less conditionalities. Africa is ready to harness its own resources in a very prudent manner for the benefit of the poor. We will continue to work on conflict resolution, work on the fight against the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and the causes for why people want to take up to arms. We will try to stop dictatorship on the African continent. People should learn to have limited terms in office and we've seen the demonstration of that in Nigeria when Obasanjo wanted a third term. The Nigerian Senate and Nigerian people stopped it, and I believe this is what is happening in Zimbabwe. Other African countries that have dictatorship will need the concerted effort of not only the AU, but also the international community to fight impunity and dictatorship in order to achieve the MDGs. Thank you.

[Chair]

Let me just ask the Representative from the European Parliament. I think she wanted to come in concerning that issue of immigration.

[Hon. Anne Van Lancker MEP, Belgium]

I would like to thank Elizabeth for raising the issue of the Return Directive because it would be a little bit illogical that we discuss development cooperation without addressing this question. This is one of the policy coherence questions that is justifiably raised in this assembly. Let me start by saying that I would like the colleagues to know that the European Parliament is not such a thing as an anonymous

body. It's a body of political parties where people make political choices. I can tell you that right from the start my political group voted against the Return Directive, together with the Greens and the extreme Left. As my colleague from Germany rightly said, people without the right documents are not criminals, so they should not be locked up and be sent back by force. But what we think is that Europe has the right to establish a chosen migration which is in collaboration with the countries of origin, which means that we are not defending a Europe with open frontiers where everybody can come in and come out as they like. No, we want rules for migration. A strange thing is that the European Union is establishing rules and laws on return and on detention before it even has a proper migration policy.

The second reason why my political group voted against it is that we don't think that 18 months of detention is reasonable – that really is a shame. And the third reason is that this directive also allows locking up children. Nobody should lock up children like you would do with criminals, so we did not like this return directive at all. The reason why some of the colleagues voted in favour of it is that this directive, for the first time, tries to establish some basic rights, even for people without documents, and I'm not trying to justify this directive because again, Françoise and I, we are riding our shoes, we did vote against, because we don't think that this law is a just law.

But let me say some good things; It established some basic rights, for example recourse in justice for people who are challenged for not having the proper documents, having access to services. Young people and children should have the right to education and people should have the right to health care services. That is also in the directive. I also wanted to say that the articles I read, specifically from Latin America, are a bit one-sided about this directive. This does not take away these two reasons – locking people away for 18 months and locking up children and returning children by force was unacceptable for most of us. Now unfortunately, the Left doesn't have the majority any more in the European Parliament, so please bear in mind that the European Parliament is also a body of living political forces and sometimes you lose, sometimes you win. Unfortunately, we lost on this issue. But we have managed anyway to get a

review clause. So, let's not panic and let's work together in order to change this law dramatically on these points. Let's ensure that people do not get locked up and that voluntary return should be the option to be defended, and that children belong in schools and in families and not in hidden centres. Thank you very much for the question.

[Chair]

Ok thank you. Finally Mr. Jose Rimon.

[Mr. Jose G. Rimon II, B&MGF]

Let me make 3 quick comments on 3 issues: First on corruption, second on Catholicism, and third on the issue of the nexus between debt relief and MDGs. On the issue of corruption I fully, 100% agree with the honourable Members of Parliament – I think it has to be dealt with as an issue of priority. Second, I am Catholic, but if you take a look at Latin America, the highest practice of contraception in the world is in Latin America, and Latin America is majority Catholic. So its not a contradiction.

The third issue that was raised by the gentleman from the Philippines – I think we should take this very seriously, because he opened up a new way of thinking and I think all of us should be in this mode of thinking. He mentioned something about the equivalent of essentially what we call a debt buy-down, or sometimes in the financing world it's called a loan buy-down. It's a derivative of that. In a loan buy-down, for example, say your country borrows money from ADB, Asian Development Bank, to reduce infant mortality by 50% over 5 years. Then you bring in a third partner, let's say, for the sake of argument you bring in Germany as your third partner, or the Gates Foundation, or whatever third partner. If you achieve what you want to achieve in 5 years in terms of reducing infant mortality, the third party essentially buys your debt/loan. So now the country is especially empowered to make sure that they reduce infant mortality.

In the case of the French, I think you probably are familiar with UNITAID. In the case of UNITAID, every time you travel in France, outside or inside, there's a special tax on the airline ticket and that goes into UNITAID. That money goes into either global development or global health. In the case of Peru, the Parliament passed a law, I think it is either on alcohol or tobacco, I'm not sure. The taxes on alcohol or tobacco go straight into a reproductive health fund. In the case of Colombia, under Law 100 called the "Sin Tax", both the taxes on alcohol and on tobacco go directly into the national health insurance scheme and can be used for health. We were quite surprised when the Foundation had a partnership with the United Nations Population Fund in the case of malaria, and the group which was the recipient of the grant had a campaign for which ordinary people can contribute through the internet in terms of buying the mosquiro net. In six months \$18 million came in because people care about the issue. Again, just in terms adaptation, imagination, new ways of thinking is needed so that it's not always the fact that we need donor money. We need to be very creative about this.

Again, to use my own Foundation – we had a partnership. It took three years to negotiate, but the World Lutheran and the World Methodist faith-based groups are now committed to raising \$200 million for malaria and all of that money will go to the global fund. So, we can begin to think of other new ways of raising the issue, raising resources in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. We should not always get stuck – we just need more money from the donors. That's all I wanted to say, thank you very much.

[Chair]

I'd like to thank the presenters and colleagues for participating.

SESSION 5
Discussion and Adoption of the Statement

Chair:
Hon. Dr. Keith Martin
MP, Canada

At the beginning of Session 5, the draft statement produced at the Drafting Committee Meeting the previous day was presented to the participants.

Under the chairpersonship of Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP, Canada, various points of view were aired and debated to highlight the linkages within the issues of population and development, climate change and food security. The session resulted in the “*G8 International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Population & Sustainable Development Statement*”, which was adopted unanimously by the participants.

**“G8 International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Population
& Sustainable Development Statement on
Global Health, Climate Change & Food Security”**

Tokyo, Japan 3 July 2008

Preamble

We, the Parliamentarians from 27 countries gathered in Tokyo, Japan from the 2nd to 3rd of July 2008, to discuss population and sustainable development issues, focusing on the interrelationship between climate change and population including reproductive health, primary health care, food security and newly and re-emerging infectious diseases. We reaffirm the *2007 Berlin Appeal* and all previous statements at Parliamentary meetings on population development.

We RECOGNIZE that:

- 1) The involvement of civil society, and its partnership with parliamentarians, is essential to the achievement of the MDGs.
- 2) The access to healthcare is a human right.
- 3) The issues of global health, population dynamics, climate change and food security are interconnected and require a comprehensive response, including the achievement of the MDGs.
- 4) Addressing population size, distribution and growth is very important for mitigating humanity’s impact on the environment, including climate change.
- 5) Addressing population development requires universal access to reproductive health, including family planning, the reduction of maternal and infant mortality, the reduction of early pregnancy, and the participation of both genders.
- 6) Strengthening health systems is a priority for improving reproductive health specifically, maternal health family planning. This is also needed to produce effective responses to emergency situations arising from climate change which largely affects the poorest segment of the population, in particular, women and children.
- 7) On present projections, global population will grow by 20%, to eight billion, by 2025. This will create unprecedented demands on global resources. Meeting this growing demand will require a sustained and long-term response at global and national levels.
- 8) Poverty, malnutrition, malaria, TB, HIV, other infectious diseases, and a lack of clean water and sanitation are some of the most significant burdens in the context of sustainable development.
- 9) Both men and women have the responsibility to improve reproductive health outcomes.
- 10) There is a need to address unmet needs for reproductive health services, including family planning.
- 11) Paying particular attention to the strengthening overall health systems, will make universal access to reproductive health, prevention of newly emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases at all levels and achievement of health MDGs possible, and to put in place adequate emergency response plans to address natural disasters due to climate change.
- 12) There is the need to ensure equitable access to gender sensitive health care, including prevention of newly emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases at all levels.
- 13) Smallholder farmers are important players in natural resource management and carbon sequestration and can have an important part in climate change mitigation strategies. The world’s 450 million small farms feed their families that total about two billion people worldwide living in rural areas.

Call to Action to: G8 heads of state and government to act urgently to:

- 1) Integrate population issues and poverty reduction strategies into all responses to address climate change.
- 2) Recommit to: the objectives of universal access to HIV/AIDS-prevention, treatment and care by 2010 as promised in Gleneagles; revitalise the reproductive health and family planning agenda worldwide to achieve gender equality; reduce neonatal and maternal mortality and morbidity, including obstetric fistula and unsafe abortions.
- 3) Commit to increasing investment in the development of new disease prevention technologies, such as microbicides and vaccines and the transferring of these technologies to the developing world.
- 4) Ensure that developing countries have equal access to affordable essential medicines whether they are generic or patented.
- 5) Provide adequate technical and financial support to strengthen primary health care systems including training and retaining health workers. This includes terminating the active recruitment of skilled health care workers from developing countries unless there is prior consent between the recipient and sending countries.
- 6) Commit to achieving the MDG 5 target of universal access to reproductive health by 2015, through the provision of adequate technical and financial support to address unmet needs for reproductive health services and supplies, including family planning.
- 7) Use maternal mortality, maternal morbidity, infant mortality, and life span as indicators for health system performance.
- 8) Advance comprehensive cooperation in global health for the timely action to reduce the impact of newly emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases by establishing an early warning system and ensuring that all people have access to essential and affordable medical supplies.
- 9) Support global research and development and public-private partnerships (PPPs), to address global health challenges such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected diseases.
- 10) Support programmes which promote environmentally sustainable and healthy lifestyles.
- 11) Invest in the world's 450 million small holder farms to enable them to increase production through improved access to essential inputs, such as agricultural tools, seeds and fertilizers, in order to respond to the global increase in demand for food and ensure that the investment in biofuels is not at the risk of increased competition for agricultural land, jeopardising food security.
- 12) Engage the Parliaments of ODA recipient countries through requiring the disclosure of ODA conditionalities and details by recipient governments to their parliaments.
- 13) ODA lender countries should reduce conditionalities consistent with the Paris Principles on ODA, particularly on conditionalities on consultancy, equipment and supply components in order for the recipient countries to maximize the utilization of the ODA.
- 14) Agree on comprehensive funding and action plans with clear timetables on the commitment of Heiligendam (2007) to fund \$60 billion to address health related needs of developing countries, including support for health systems strengthening and efforts to fight AIDS, TB and malaria.

We call on Parliamentarians to ensure that legislation, policies and funding related to the above issues are clearly defined and enforced.

- 1) Call upon both donor and recipient countries to have a shared responsibility for reaching the MDGs. Donor countries are also strongly requested to meet the ODA pledge of 0.7% of GNI. Recipient countries are particularly called upon to put in place measures that will ensure the transparent and effective use of development aid.
- 2) To demand from the governments of developing countries embrace good governance, democracy and accountability to allow for the attainment of MDGs in their countries by 2015.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Address

Hon. Wakako Hironaka

MP, Japan

Acting Chairperson of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)

Two hard working days were spent deliberating the crucial global issues the G8 Summit will be addressing and adopting for the Tokyo declaration from the perspectives of population and development. On behalf of the JPFP, I wish to thank each of you for your valued contribution.

We only know too well that population is the basic component of all global challenges. We cannot say, however, that its true significance is fully understood. Deliberation surrounding the environment issue often produces very different views depending on who is speaking on behalf of whom. For example, some seriously maintain that global warming is simply part of the natural change of the global environment. However, if we seriously think of what we can do about it the whole discussion will assume an entirely different tone.

No matter what the position, it is clear that we must all do our share to reduce the accumulation of CO₂ if we are serious about reducing the impact of the progressing climate change. A great diversity of opinion is the basic feature of democracy and we must uphold it at all cost. But as politicians we cannot stop at simply airing our diverse views, we must go beyond the discussion, make decisions and put in place measures to protect our future. The future, needless to say, is never automatically decided.

It is shaped by the decisions each of us make today and the actions we undertake.

None of us are prophets and we are often uncertain whether the judgments we make today are absolutely correct. Having said so, we cannot avoid the responsibility of making that difficult decision if we want our future to be better and brighter than today. I sincerely wish to continue our efforts to work together because working hand in hand gives us the strength.

Let me congratulate all of us for having adopted an excellent declaration – the fruits of our deliberation. Please make sure that you present it to your national delegations. The secretariat is standing by to produce and present to each of you the declaration in digital form as soon as it is finalized.

The Japan Parliamentarians Federation on Population will certainly hand the declaration to Prime Minister Fukuda who will be chairing the Summit. I know I speak for all of us when I say that what we would really like to see is that the outcome of our conference is reflected in the policies of not just the G8 countries, but of all countries in Asia, Africa and the Americas and that it will contribute to promoting the wellbeing of all peoples. On behalf of JPFP, I thank you once again for all your goodwill and hard work. Thank you.

Address

Ms. Kayoko Shimizu

Acting Chairperson of Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

Let me congratulate you for the tremendous work you have just completed. Your thoughtful deliberations have been adopted as the Tokyo Declaration. As the secretariat of the conference all of us at APDA are extremely happy and gratified.

With the cooperation of the supporting organizations, this conference became a world conference with parliamentarians participating from all corners of the earth. You must feel very satisfied, if a little exhausted, at the outstanding outcome you have produced.

The Asian Population and Development Association, the organization on whose behalf I speak, was established in February 1982 as the founding organization of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), following the resolution adopted in 1981 at the Asian Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development. During the subsequent 26 years, we have supported JPFP and AFPPD as their secretariats in support of your parliamentary activities on population and development.

As Dr. Taro Nakayama, Principal Adviser to JPFP stated in his keynote speech, the vision and the mission of the founding pioneers was to find the solution to the population in the context of sustainable development. These ideals are as refreshing and challenging today as they were then. It is the ardent wish of all of us to create a society in which all peoples can live a worthy and hopeful life as human beings. Without building such a society, we cannot hope for a promising future for the members of our global community.

The APDA secretariat, as you have noticed, is managed by a select few. With your generous cooperation we will continue to do our very best to support your important parliamentary activities on population and development. We are full of goodwill but short on staff. So I kindly ask you to overlook our shortcomings in not serving you better.

Thank you once again for your participation. Let me wish you a safe and pleasant journey back home. I certainly will look forward to our meeting in the near future and bid you farewell on behalf of APDA. Thank you.

PRESS CONFERENCE

[MC]

Please let us very briefly report to you the outcomes of this conference. With regard to the details, perhaps you can ask representatives from regional parliamentarians' forums. The main objective of this conference is to be able to send a communication to the G8 Summiteers that addressing the population issue is the basis of tackling the global issues.

Climate change and food security are now top of the agenda, but usually only technological aspects, international financial trade and speculative capital are the ones that are focused in addressing these issues. The FAO Food Summit took place in Rome last month, and Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda and Hon. Yoshio Yatsuo mentioned at the Food Summit that population issues are at the basis of the problems of food security. But most of the people said maybe population will become a major problem with regard to food security, but that's 20 to 30 years from now, and that low productivity, speculative capital flow, and climate change are more of a challenge.

If we take a myopic perspective, that may be true, but once the population has increased and children are born, they have the right to live with dignity. That's a basic right. We know that population will increase, but if we do nothing right now and the risk goes up, who's going to take the responsibility? People who do not take action to address this issue today will not be able to take any responsibility.

APDA has been working toward the promotion of Japan's important role in the global community and harmonization with the environment addressing population and development issues, through supporting parliamentary activities. We would like to shed light on the correlation between population issues, on one hand, and climate change and food security on the other. We have to make sure that this issue has to be on top of the agenda of the Summiteers.

Actually, last year we had the Asia-Africa Parliamentarians' Dialogue on Population Issues and Community Development to send the message toward TICAD IV and the G8. Based on the statement adopted at the Dialogue, we were able to put together the Asian voice at the Asian Parliamentarians' Meeting on Population and Development at the end of April. JFPF members handed over to Prime Minister Fukuda the statement of voices of the Asian Parliamentarians. With this, Prime Minister Fukuda referred to population issues and reproductive health in his address at TICAD IV.

This time we've invited parliamentarians from around the world and we've worked on the Declaration of World Voice. I would like to invite representatives from regional parliamentary forums to briefly talk about the outcomes of the conference. First, I would like to invite Ms. Safiye Çağar from UNFPA, which is the supporting organization of this conference.

[Ms. Safiye Çağar, UNFPA]

The objective of the meeting was to bring the parliamentarians from around the world to discuss the population issues in the face of the global health, climate change, and food security, and send a message to the G8 leaders who are meeting in Japan next week, through the discussions that took place here. That was the objective of the meeting.

[MC]

I would like to ask Hon. Keith Martin if he would briefly explain about the adopted declaration.

[Hon. Dr. Keith Martin MP, Canada]

27 nations were here and over the last day we put together a declaration. To summarize, the declaration is a call to action to G8 heads of state and governments to act urgently and there are 14 points in the call to action. I won't go through all of them, but to essentially summarize, as Ms. Çağar mentioned, it really deals with calling on the G8 nations to implement the commitments that have already been made at

previous parliamentary meetings and G8 Summits to be able to have a focused, targeted, plan of action and to fund that plan of action, which really addresses the large health care challenges that our world faces, particularly in developing countries, with a special emphasis on reproductive health challenges, population development and climate change. I think that the 27 country representatives here, with a very large and positive involvement by our Japanese colleagues, put together a strongly worded, specific series of solutions that we strongly urge the G8 leaders to adopt. Thank you.

[MC]

Thank you very much. I would now like to like to ask our representatives from Europe, Latin America and Africa to comment.

[Hon. Dr. Harald Terpe MP, Germany]

I come from Germany and we as the German delegation of 5 parliamentarians, want to continue the parliamentarians' discussion over the issues which my colleague Dr. Martin has stated. For us, it is important that international parliamentarians play important roles in the solution to problems of global health, population dynamics, climate change, food security and so on, based on the MDGs. That's why this conference is important and I think that we have to continue this process.

[MC]

Thank you very much. May I call upon a representative from Africa?

[Hon. Akua Sena Dansua MP, Ghana]

I think we also made the point that governments of developing nations should exercise a lot of transparency and accountability in the utilization of resources that are made available to our various countries to ensure the achievement of the MDGs. We noted that corruption is a very big problem in our countries and that we will not allow our systems to undermine the very good objectives that the donor countries have towards our various countries. We need to make sure that resources are utilized, we need to make sure that everybody participates in the process, we need to ensure good governance and accountability. This is a very strong point that we made and which is captured in our call for action.

[MC]

Thank you very much. Next, Ms. Salguero, representative from IAPG.

[Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo MP, Bolivia]

We come from many countries and together we constructed a final statement. I want to emphasize one thing that is true for all countries and that is that the access of health care is a human right. That is a very important point for all of us in developing countries, as well as developed countries. We have many common challenges as parliamentarians and we cannot continue to work on these issues alone because population issues, global health, climate change and food security are interlinked with each other. Of course it's very important for us to make this document known by the people all the world. Thank you.

[MC]

Hon. Shukuri from Malaysia, please.

[Hon. Nancy Shukri MP, Malaysia]

On behalf of Malaysia, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Japanese government and, of course, the organizers for having us here. We have been sharing a lot of things and I would like to emphasize things that we from Malaysia really appreciate, especially with regard to information on the empowering of women, on the matters involving climate change and also on the matters involving reproductive health. We hope to bring back to Malaysia what we have commonly shared here. Another thing that I was really impressed with during the presentations was the information by the World Bank where we could share on the 3 matters that we could bring back in terms of helping our people with regard to the rise of petrol and also the food security plan. I hope I can bring it back to Malaysia for us to share with our people. Thank you so much.

[MC]

Lastly, Hon. Hironaka, please speak on behalf of JPFP.

[Hon. Wakako Hironaka MP, Japan]

I'm always facing difficulty regarding the issues when we talk about population. Japanese are more worried about the greying of the society and drop of birthrate, so people aren't really concerned about the increase of population. But

if you look at the world as a whole, by 2050 our entire population would have increased by 50%, so we will have increased to 9.2 billion people instead of 6.7 billion that marks the current record. Against such backdrop, CO₂ emission must have been reduced by 50% by then. How could we possibly achieve that? On top of that, we do have to commit ourselves to the commitments to achieve the target of MDGs so that we could better the lives of each of the individuals. We have now the food security issue and energy prices soaring. We do have overwhelming problems to address.

Next week, Japan is hosting the G8 Summit meeting in Japan. We're not going to stay put while watching the problems becoming more serious, rather we should at least be able to drive ourselves forward to look for a solution of any kind so that we could create a better future for the society. I'm afraid I couldn't come up with a brighter view, but as long as we have hope there will be a solution. This was in mind as the discussions took place at this conference. As Ms. Shimizu mentioned earlier, it is a rare occasion that parliamentarians from so many countries have come to be part of this conference, representing each region from the entire world. Europe, Africa, the Americas and Asia came all the way to Japan, and we are engaged in a serious, yet peaceful and constructive, exchange of opinions. That was something worthwhile and significant. Thank you.

[MC]

Thank you very much. We would like to open the discussion to the floor. Please raise your hand if you have any questions. Mr. Nishiuchi?

[Mr. Makahiko Nishiuchi]

I used to be at the Kyoto Tsushin, and now I'm a free-lance journalist. Listening to today's

interactions, some say that reproductive health is a major key to achieve the MDGs and solve related issues. Others say that food security is the key, depending on your perspectives or stance you have. When the media take up the issue, what are the key aspects in getting the MDGs across a larger public? In order to achieve the MDGs, what people think is the most critical vary depending on where they come from. That is why the message is not very clear. I would like to know what UNFPA thinks about it.

[Ms. Safiye Cagar, UNFPA]

You cannot separate either one of them, because climate change and food security are interlinked and they are threats to human security. The population issue is very much a part of addressing these issues and to be able to address the population issue, you need reproductive health, which encompasses or provides voluntary family planning, thus addressing the population issues. I have to stress within the phrase "Voluntary Family Planning", the word "voluntary". It is the most cost effective way of addressing our climate and food shortage issue; by providing initial family planning services, you address the population issue – you stabilize your population. If you do not provide family planning services, the number of people will increase, you will have demands on food and water and you will have demands on health services, so it will just get out of hand. This in turn will put pressure on the environment, which will be aggravated by climate as well. Everything is linked to one another. So at the end of the day, it is cost effective to be able to provide family planning initially to stabilize the population.

[MC]

Thank you very much.

Participants' List

No.	NAME	Position	Regional Forums	Country
MPs from Europe, Asia, Africa and Americas				
1	1	Hon. Anne Van Lancker	MEP, President of EPF/Chair of EPWG	EPF Belgium
2	2	Hon. Françoise Castex	MEP	EPF France
3	3	Hon. Danielle Bousquet	MP	EPF France
4	4	Hon. Yves Censi	MP	EPF/ PNoWB France
5	5	Hon. Sibylle Pfeiffer	MP, Member of Committee for Economic Cooperation and Development	EPF Germany
6	6	Hon. Dr. Harald Terpe	MP, Spokesman on the Committee on Health	EPF Germany
7	7	Hon. Dr. Sascha Raabe	MP, Spokesman for the SPD Parliamentary Group on Economic Cooperation & Development	EPF Germany
8	8	Hon. Daniel Bahr	MP, Member of Health Committee	EPF Germany
9	9	Hon. Peter Friedrich	MP, Member of Health Committee	EPF Germany
10	10	Hon. Elizabeth Salguero Carrillo	MP	IAPG Bolivia
11	11	Hon. Dr. Keith Martin	MP, Opposition Critic for International Development	IAPG Canada
12	12	Hon. Dr. Sebastian Paul	MP	AFPPD India
13	13	Hon. Nancy Shukri	MP	AFPPD Malaysia
14	14	Hon. Dr. Donya Aziz	MP	AFPPD Pakistan
15	15	Hon. Edcel C. Lagman	MP	AFPPD Philippines
16	16	Hon. Dr. Janette Garin	MP	AFPPD/ PNoWB Philippines
17	17	Hon. Munim Khalikov	MP	AFPPD Tajikistan
18	18	Hon. Dr. Pinit Kullavanijaya	MP, Member of the Thai Senate Standing Committee on Public Health	AFPPD Thailand
19	19	Hon. Dr. Nguyen Van Tien	MP, Vice-Chairperson of VAPPD	AFPPD Vietnam
20	20	Hon. Maurice Bangayassi	MP	FAAPPD Central African Republic
21	21	Hon. Ali Issa Abbas	MP, Chair of the Chadian Parliamentary Network on Population and Development	FAAPPD Chad
22	22	Hon. Dr. Sherin Ahmed Fouad	MP	FAAPPD Egypt
23	23	Hon. Akua Sena Dansua	MP	FAAPPD Ghana
24	24	Hon. Charles Keter	MP	FAAPPD Kenya
25	25	Hon. Benedicte Johanita Ndahimananjara	MP	FAAPPD Madagascar
26	26	Hon. Amadou Haradou	MP	FAAPPD Niger
27	27	Hon. Saudatu Sani	MP, Chair for the Committee on MDGs	FAAPPD Nigeria
28	28	Hon. Diop Elhadji Malick	MP, Vice-President of FAAPPD/ Chair of the Senegalese Parliamentary Network on Population and Development	FAAPPD Senegal
29	29	Hon. Ibrahim Sorie	MP	FAAPPD/ PGA Sierra Leone
30	30	Hon. Tshililo Michael Masutha	MP, Chair of Portfolio Committee on Social Development	FAAPPD South Africa
31	31	Hon. Khira Lagha Ben Fadhel	MP, President of FAAPPD	FAAPPD Tunisia
32	32	Hon. Sylvia N. M. Ssinabulya	MP	FAAPPD/ IPPF Africa Uganda

33	33	Hon. Dr. Peter David Machungwa	MP, Chair of the All Party Zambian Parliamentary Network on Population and Development	FAAPPD	Zambia
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35	2	Hon. Taro Nakayama	MP, Principal Adviser of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
36	3	Hon. Wakako Hironaka	MP, Acting Chairperson of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
37	4	Hon. Yoshio Yatsu	MP, Vice Chair of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
38	5	Hon. Yoko Komiyama	MP, Vice Chair of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
39	6	Hon. Mayumi Moriyama	MP, Vice Chair of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
40	7	Hon. Chieko Nohno	MP, Secretary General of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
41	8	Hon. Chiaki Takahashi	MP, Deputy Secretary General of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
42	9	Hon. Shuichi Kato	MP, Director of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
43	10	Hon. Asahiko Mihara	MP	AFPPD	Japan
44	11	Hon. Akihiro Nishimura	MP	AFPPD	Japan
45	12	Hon. Koushin Fujitani	MP	AFPPD	Japan
46	13	Hon. Tetsundo Iwakuni	MP	PNoWB	Japan
47	14	Hon. Tsutomu Okubo	MP	PNoWB	Japan
48	15	Hon. Satsuki Katayama	MP	PNoWB	Japan
49	16	Secretary to Hon. Ichiro Aisawa (Mr. Kurokawa)	MP, Executive Director of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
50	17	Secretary to Hon. Teruhiko Mashiko (Mr. Kazuhiro Onuma)	MP, Director of JPFP	AFPPD	Japan
51	18	Secretary to Hon. Yoshitake Kimata (Mr. Hiroshi Taniguchi)	MP	AFPPD	Japan
52	19	Secretary to Hon. Isshu Sugawara	MP	PNoWB	Japan
53	20	Secretary to Hon. Keisuke Suzuki	MP	PNoWB	Japan
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54	1	Dr. Gerald Stokes	President & COE of Battelle-Japan Corporation		Japan
55	2	Mr. Jose Rimón II	Senior Program Officer of B&MGF		U.S.
56	3	Dr. Yonosuke Hara	Professor of GRIPS		Japan
57	4	Ms. Farhana Haque Rahman	Chief, Media Relations, Special Events and Programmes of IFAD		Italy
58	5	Dr. Gill Greer	Director General of IPPF		U.K.
59	6	Dr. Awa Marie Coll-Seck	Executive Director of RBM		Switzerland
60	7	Mr. Mohammad Zia Qureshi	Senior Adviser of Office of Chief Economist and Senior Vice President, World Bank		U.S.
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61	1	Ms. Safiye Cagar	Director of IERD		U.S.
62	2	Ms. Kiyoko Ikegami	Director of Tokyo Office		Japan
63	3	Ms. Nobuko Takahashi	Parliamentary/NGO Public Affairs Specialist		U.S.
64	4	Ms. Mika Yamamoto	Staff		Japan
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65	1	Mr. Koji Tsuruoka	Ambassador, Director-General for Global Issues		Japan
66	2	Mr. Jun Yamazaki	Director-General for Global Issues		Japan

67	3	Mr. Takeshi Osuga	Director of Global Issues Cooperation Division, International Cooperation Bureau	Japan
68	4	Mr. Ken Ota	Global Issues Cooperation Division, International Cooperation Bureau	Japan
69	5	Mr. Takanori Nishino	Global Issues Cooperation Division, International Cooperation Bureau	Japan
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71	2	Mr. Oleg Shovkovyy	Programme Associate for Central Asia	Thailand
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73	2	Mr. Axel Klüsener	Secretariat of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development, German Parliament	Germany
74	3	Ms. Renate Bähr	Acting Executive Director of DSW	Germany
75	4	Ms. Maike Schliebs	Advocacy Officer of DSW	Germany
76	5	Mr. Neil Datta	Secretary of EPF	Belgium
77	7	Mr. Manmohan Sharma	Executive Secretary of IAPPD	India
78	8	Mr. Masanori Kobayashi	Project Management Office Coordinator of IGES	Japan
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80	10	Ms. Mizuho Ishikawa	Japan Family Planning Association, INC (JFPA)	Japan
81	11	Ms. Sumie Ishii	Executive Director of JOICFP	Japan
82	12	Ms. Maho Ishikawa	Senior Program Officer of JOICFP	Japan
83	13	Ms. Makoto Yaguchi	Program Officer of Information and Advocacy of JOICFP	Japan
84	14	Mr. Masahiko Nishiuchi	Director of NPO2050	Japan
85	15	Ms. Soonhee Lee	Executive Director of Japan Support Forum for Center for Communication Programs in collaboration with Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	Japan
86	16	Ms. Eleni C. Mavrogeorgis	Programme Officer of PGA	U.S.
87	17	Ms. Amy Coen	CEO & President of PAI	U.S.
88	18	Mr. Michel Smitall	Advocacy Manager of RBM	Switzerland
89	19	Mr. Minar Pimple	Deputy Director of Asia Regional, UNMC	Thailand
90	20	Ms. Mika Iwasaki	Senior Communications Officer of World Bank	Japan
91	21	Ms. Miyuki Izumiyama	Operation Analyst of the World Bank	Japan
92	22	Mr. Kazushige Taniguchi	Special Representative of the World Bank	Japan
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(51)	-	Mr. Hiroshi Taniguchi	Secretary to Hon. Yoshitake Kimata MP	Japan
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111	2	Mr. Allexander Gates	Intern to Hon. Wakako Hironaka's Office	Japan
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115	4	Ms. Aya Hasegawa	Staff Writer, The Hokkaido Simbun Press	Japan
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125	14	Mr. Yukihiko Okada	Staff Writer, TV Tokyo Corporation	Japan
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127	16	Mr. Yuko Aizawa	News Reporting Center, NHK	Japan
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129	18	Mr. Talashi Shoka	Staff Writer, The Tokyo Shimbun	Japan
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133	3	Ms. Hitomi Tsunekawa	International Affairs Manager	Japan
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135	5	Ms. Katie Dönszelmann	International Affairs Programme Officer	Japan
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147	9	Mr. Alexander Wood	German-English	Germany



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