



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization

Department of Policy and Business Practices

Implementation of the UN millennium process: business priorities and engagement

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On this occasion, which will bring together Heads of State and Government from around the world to judge the progress made towards the goals of human betterment set by the 2000 Millennium Assembly—the Millennium Development Goals—and to agree on what still needs to be done, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) reaffirms its support for these goals.

Business, as represented by ICC, has been deeply and constructively engaged over the past years in the many UN and other international meetings and conferences that have identified the crucial components of a global partnership for development and its interlinked priorities, including the International Conference on Financing for Development (Monterrey) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg). Together, they reflect a global consensus on the challenges facing humanity and set out a roadmap for cooperative action by governments, business and other sectors of society. The focus should continue to be the implementation of these objectives.

Poverty eradication has emerged as the foremost unifying priority facing us. ICC reaffirms its support of this overriding goal.

Creating an enabling environment for enterprises of all sizes and sectors to develop, create jobs and pursue technological innovation and cooperation—coupled with sound governance and policies to reduce barriers to international trade and foreign direct investment—opens a significant route out of poverty.

While the main responsibility for these crucial undertakings lies with governments, addressing such challenges will require concerted effort and partnership by all actors in society. ICC encourages the UN, other intergovernmental organizations and national governments to seek constructive engagement of business in these crucial efforts, and include business representatives in discussions of how to move them ahead.

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