



## Public-Private Alliance Foundation

### “Partners against Poverty – Awareness, Agreements and Action”

16 July 2008, New York

The important roles of the private sector, public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder alliances are becoming more significant features of international concerns for sustainable development, and of deliberations in the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and General Assembly. In order to reach the internationally-agreed Millennium Development Goals, action from all quarters is essential. The eight basic goals are interlinked, and developing “a global partnership for development” is a key one of these.

The organizations and individuals who attend the 16 July meeting will have an opportunity to learn about the work of others, and to participate in smaller discussions and to report on their work. The objectives are to build awareness of the kinds of alliances that are working, to build agreements among those who attend, and as Partners Against Poverty, to promote action after the meeting.

The Public-Private Alliance Foundation (PPAF) is a member of a growing family of efforts within and outside the UN system that focus on the positive role business can play in promoting development. Greater awareness of current efforts and work toward devising new multi-stakeholder agreements can help move forward the actions required. Accordingly, this year the ECOSOC Coordination Segment (7-9 July) will review the Ministerial Declaration of 2007, on accelerating efforts to achieve MDG #1, (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) including rural development.

PPAF is a non-profit organization linked to the UN Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development (UNPPA). It seeks to stimulate pro-poor business opportunities, entrepreneurial capacity-building and investments, and commerce and related activities for sustainable development. It works closely with the United Nations for policies that advance public-private alliances, and it helps to create linkages and mobilize resources to combat poverty.

UNPPA is an initiative endorsed by ECOSOC, which has invited support for partnerships among governments, donors, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector. By resolution E/2007/L.37 it encouraged those involved with public-private partnerships to share their experiences, and it also gave official recognition to PPAF in 2007. Work is now proceeding in Madagascar and the Dominican Republic. Angola and Ethiopia, which ECOSOC approved as the third and fourth pilot countries in 2007, have also expressed interest in undertaking work within the framework of UNPPA. ECOSOC requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit a report on UNPPA to its session in July 2009.

PPAF aims to support UNPPA, which seeks to identify, highlight and promote business and partnerships that are both profitable and have a broad distribution of social and economic benefits and to bring this to the attention of the international community. Currently UNPPA is gathering data for analysis and inclusion in next year’s report. Further information is available at [www.un.org/esa/coordination/Alliance/home](http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/Alliance/home).





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PPAF puts into action the aims of UNPPA, with Madagascar and the Dominican Republic as the first focus countries. The Foundation is building relations with companies, non-profit organizations, diaspora groups, business associations, universities and colleges, and others. Its areas of emphasis include agribusiness, public health, women's entrepreneurship and microfinance, renewable energy, sustainable tourism and information technology. The role of PPAF is to act as a facilitator in the development of new collaborations. It has working relations with UN-INSTRAW (the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women), some business associations and several university programs. Further information is available on the web at [www.ppafoundation.org](http://www.ppafoundation.org).

The establishment of PPAF as a separate non-profit that is associated with UNPPA provides leverage for additional momentum, an idea that takes inspiration from the establishment of the Foundation for the Global Compact. PPAF is moving ahead with multi-stakeholder dialogues and conferences, and facilitation of support for capacity-building, financing and commerce in several areas. Several instances of public-private collaboration are now taking shape.

This meeting will provide opportunity for participants to devote attention to collaborative efforts in the pilot countries, to provide information on the relevant work of their organizations, and to take further steps for multi-stakeholder initiatives.

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