



# bending the arc

**the business of attaining the millennium development goals in africa**

Guildhall, London, 4th July 2005



2005 presents an historic opportunity for Africa. Perhaps never before has the international community devoted so much attention and resource to tackling the obstacles facing Africa's development.

At NEPAD we welcome this renewed focus on Africa. Since its formation in 2001 NEPAD has been driving forward a new vision of Africa. Designed and implemented by Africa's leaders, and for Africa's people, NEPAD is a strategic framework for Africa's renewal.

NEPAD will be judged by Africa's progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a set of development objectives that the international community signed up to in 2000. Key amongst these is the halving of global poverty. In Africa, this means economic development on an unprecedented scale. We must move now to ensure that this occurs.

On 4th July, NEPAD is bringing together civil society, business leaders and government representatives in a unique forum to identify ways in which to accelerate progress towards attainment of these development goals.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to contribute to our discussion on that day. Our recommendations will be presented directly to the African Union Heads of State Meeting in Tripoli, Libya, and then to the G8 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland later that week. Finally, the findings of Bending the Arc will be presented to the United Nations in September, when it reviews the progress towards the MDGs in Africa.

The Lord Mayor of London has graciously offered to host this event in the Guildhall in the heart of the City of London. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for providing us with such a prestigious venue for our meeting.

I look forward to seeing you on 4th July

**Professor Wiseman Nkuhlu**

Chief Executive, NEPAD Secretariat



*"Through wealth creation, jobs and finance, as well as through more obviously philanthropic activities, the private sector in Africa has a crucial role to play in African development. The MDGs provide a framework for benchmarking that role and businesses should embrace the opportunity to make clear their commitment to Africa development."*

**Dr Alhaji Bamanga Tukur, Chairman, NEPAD Business Group**  
**Executive President African Business Roundtable**

## Introduction

Bending the Arc, a unique one day event, provides a forum for engaging all stakeholders to mobilise resources to obtain the Millennium Development Goals in Africa in partnership with the G8. Outcomes will be presented via video link to the African Union (AU) Heads of State Summit in Tripoli and to G8 Summit Leaders. They will also represent a submission to the UN Millennium Summit in September 2005.

Building a constituency for wealth creation amongst the G8 and the economic and policy elites in Africa is a challenge. Bending the Arc will examine the role and contribution of different stakeholders including national governments, the AU, NEPAD, international NGOs and the private sector in mobilising support among G8 nations to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in Africa.

Building on the momentum created by Prime Minister Blair's Commission for Africa, the event will take place in the City of London on 4th July on the eve of the 2005 G8 Summit, where the G8 Africa Action Plan is to be reviewed.

The event is being organised by NEPAD Secretariat, NEPAD Business Group and the African Business Roundtable (ABR), and is supported by the Corporation of London and the Africa investor Advisory Board.

## How Bending the Arc works

The African Union, NEPAD and G8 leaderships are soliciting contributions as they prioritise actions for the advancement of the Commission for Africa report, the G8 Africa Action Plan and input to the UN Millennium Summit September 2005.

Seminal pieces of research – 'Session Briefings' - will inform contributions and interventions for each session.

Each 'Session Briefing' will review the effectiveness of current contributions towards achieving the MDGs and will consider their scalability for suitable African markets.

Wide screen projection will support each session, displaying case study video materials, statistics, graphics and perspectives from roundtable contributors outside of the venue.

## Programme, 4th July 2005

### Opening

- Confirmed**
- **Prof Ibrahim Gambari**, Under Secretary General and Special Advisor on Africa, United Nations
  - **Prof Wiseman Nkuhlu**, Chairman, NEPAD Steering Committee
  - **Dr Bamanga Tukur**, Chairman NEPAD Business Group and Executive President, African Business Roundtable

- Invited**
- **H.E Kofi Annan**, Secretary General, United Nations
  - **Sir Bob Geldof**, Commissioner, Commission for Africa



*"The MDGs cannot be achieved with 'business as usual'.*

**James Wolfensohn, Former President, World Bank**

### Session 1: Down to Business

This session will explore why it is in the self-interest of all stakeholders, including business, to play a role in achieving the MDGs. It will assess what practical actions business can make to achieve the MDGs and how business can interact with governments, donors and NGOs to support the implementation of the MDGs. It will also explore recommendations for measuring and reporting the results of these actions.

- Confirmed**
- **Ambassador John Maresca**, President, Business Humanitarian Forum
  - **Robert Davies**, CEO, International Business Leaders Forum
  - **Bjorn Stigson**, President, World Business Council on Sustainable Development
  - **Anthony Bouthelier**, Président Délégué, Conseil des Investisseurs en Afrique, CIAN
  - **Barbara Stocking**, Director, Oxfam
  - **Paul Skinner**, CEO, Rio Tinto
  - **Laurence Cockcroft**, Chairman, Transparency International
  - **Dr Mohamed Ibrahim**, Chairman, Celtel

- Invited**
- **Goodie Ibru**, Chairman, NEPAD Business Group, Nigeria
  - **Neville Isdell**, Chairman, Coca-Cola Company
  - **Stephen Hayes**, President, Corporate Council on Africa



*"The message from business has been clear: encouraging the entrepreneurial spirit of Africa's people is central to growth and poverty reduction. This means getting the investment climate right, particularly for small businesses – the largest source of jobs and wealth creation.*

*The business community has also been very clear that its outlook for Africa is a positive one: it believes Africa is the next frontier for investment, while at the same time recognising the importance of investors being good corporate citizens."*

**William Kalema, Chairman of the Uganda Investment Authority  
and Commission for Africa commissioner**

## Session 2: Partnerships Count

This session will explore the benefits of partnerships for achieving each of the 8 MDGs and will examine successful frameworks for collaboration. Priority NEPAD programmes will be examined in this context.

- Confirmed**
- **Prof Jeffrey Sachs**, Director, UN Millennium Project
  - **Mark Goldring**, CEO, VSO
  - **Representative UNDP**
  - **Callisto Madavo**, Special Advisor, World Bank
  - **Mme Maïmouma Sourang Ndir**,  
Minister for SMEs, Women Entrepreneurs and Microfinance, Senegal
  - **Amb Tungi Olagunju**, Chairman, NEPAD Steering Committee

- Invited**
- **Sir Bob Geldof**, Commissioner, Commission for Africa
  - **Nitin Desai**, Head ECOSOC
  - **Klaus Topfer**, Director General, UNEP
  - **Sean de Cleene**, Director, African Institute for Corporate Citizenship
  - **Michael Angaga**, Regional Coordinator of NAP+
  - **Alberto Michelini**, Silvio Berlusconi's representative on Africa to G8, NEPAD Partnership Forum
  - **Mark Malloch Brown**, Administrator UNDP and Chief of Staff
  - **Hon Kwamena Bartels**, Minister for Private Sector Development, Ghana
  - **Hon Nouredine Boukrouh**, Minister of Commerce, Algeria



*"We are not solving practical problems because we don't want to talk about money."*

**Jeffrey Sachs, Director, UN Millennium Project**

## Session 3: Financing the Goals

Africa needs an additional \$40bn each year to achieve the MDGs by 2015. Where will this money come from? The International Finance Facility (IFF) provides one mechanism for directing more capital to Africa. Will capacity constraints stymie its effectiveness?

How can the G8 and the Bretton Woods Institutions encourage the private sector to make long-term investments in Africa?

- Confirmed**
- **Peter Woicke**, former Managing Director, International Finance Corporation
  - **William Kalema**, Chairman, Uganda Investment Authority, Commission for Africa
  - **Nkosana Moyo**, Managing Partner, Actis
  - **Kimberley Wiehl**, Secretary General, Berne Union

- Invited**
- **Hon Trevor Manuel**, Minister of Finance, South Africa
  - **Hon Anyang Nyong'o**, Minister of National Planning and Development, Kenya
  - **Jagdish Bhagwati**, Economist, member of UN NEPAD Panel
  - **Hon Idris A D Waziri**, Minister of Commerce, Nigeria
  - **Hon Eng Rachid Mohamed Rachid**, Minister of Foreign Trade and Industry, Egypt

## Consultation with the African Union Summit

The African Union Summit is taking place in Tripoli, Libya on 4th and 5th July. The conclusions from the day's event will be presented to the Heads of State Meeting in Tripoli via video link.

- London**
- **Prof Jeffrey Sachs**, Director, UN Millennium Project
  - **Ambassador Ibrahim Gambari**,  
Under Secretary General and Special Advisor on Africa, United Nations
  - **Dr Bamanga Tukur**, Chairman, NEPAD Business Group
  - **Prof Wiseman Nkuhlu**, Chief Executive, NEPAD Secretariat
- Tripoli**
- **H.E President Obasanjo**, Nigeria (to be confirmed)

## NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development)

NEPAD is the flagship economic programme of the African Union. It seeks to place Africa on the path of sustainable growth and development, and at the same time to accelerate Africa's integration into the global economy. The NEPAD Programme of Action has been endorsed by donors and G8 nations.

The G8 Africa Action Plan was launched in Kananaskis in 2002. It commits G8 Governments to mobilize global support, marshal resources and expertise, and provide impetus in support of NEPAD's objectives. The G8 will report on progress towards the implementation of the Action Plan at the Gleneagles summit. **[www.nepad.org](http://www.nepad.org)**

## NEPAD Business Group

NEPAD Business Group comprises leading international business organisations who have a broad constituency - both inside and outside Africa - and are committed to helping the continent realise its full economic potential. The group, chaired by Dr Alhaji Bamanga Tukur and the African Business Roundtable, acts as a medium between NEPAD and private companies who support its aims. The group shares information on trade and investment opportunities in Africa and encourages private sector involvement in sustainable development projects. **[www.nepadbusinessgroup.net](http://www.nepadbusinessgroup.net)**

## African Business Roundtable

The African Business Round Table (ABR) was set up in 1990 by the African Development Bank (ADB). It is committed to strengthening the African private sector. The ABR is dedicated to fostering sustainable economic growth and social development in Africa through helping to create a conducive business environment for responsible private sector investment and promoting intra-African trade and investment. It is the foremost pan-African business organisation and has five regional Chapters and an International Chapter. **[www.abrnet.org](http://www.abrnet.org)**

## UN Millennium Development Goals

The UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) commit the international community to an expanded vision of development, one that recognises the importance of creating a truly global partnership for development. They have been commonly accepted as a framework for measuring development progress. The Goals establish targets in eight categories for reducing poverty by 2015.

## UN Millennium Project

The UN Millennium Project is an independent advisory body commissioned by the UN Secretary-General and headed by Prof Jeffrey Sachs to advise the UN on strategies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. 2005 sees a review of the MDGs and the degree to which they are being achieved. This review will culminate in a meeting in September. Recommendations from this meeting will be presented to the UN General Assembly. **[www.unmillenniumproject.org](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org)**



## Africa investor Advisory Board

The Africa investor Advisory Board comprises a consortium of business and development leaders committed to pursuing solutions to investment obstacles on the continent. The Advisory Board pursues a partnership approach to engagement with policy-making institutions that influence the economic and social development of Africa. The Advisory board engages in research and advocacy on a variety of investment and development issues ranging from improving the investment climate, competitiveness, private sector engagement in infrastructure and sustainable development initiatives to support SMEs. The Board's programme is designed to improve the business environment in Africa and communicate and optimise the development benefits of private sector investment. **[www.africa-investor.com](http://www.africa-investor.com)**

## Corporation of London

The Corporation of London provides local government services for the financial and commercial heart of Britain, the City of London. It is committed to maintaining and enhancing the status of the City as the world's leading international financial and business centre through the policies it pursues and the high standard of services it provides. Its responsibilities extend far beyond the City boundaries in that it also provides a host of additional facilities for the benefit of the nation. These range from open spaces such as Epping Forest and Hampstead Heath to the famous Barbican Arts Centre.

## Guildhall

Bending the Arc will take place at the Guildhall. There has been a building on the site of the Guildhall since Roman times. The present Guildhall has been on this site since 1411 and, having survived both the Great Fire of London and the Blitz, it is the only secular stone structure dating from before 1666 still standing in the City of London.

Today Guildhall still plays an important role in the City. It provides a venue for state and civic banquets, meetings of the Corporation's elected assembly, the Court of Common Council and for the Honorary Freedom of the City ceremony. **[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk)**

To find out more about Bending the Arc please contact Helen Stanley  
**[hstanley@africapractice.com](mailto:hstanley@africapractice.com)**  
Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7462 7596

# Opening the ARC

*"To achieve the MDGs, governments must work closely with all constituencies, particularly civil society and the private sector"*

Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the MDGs. United Nations

