

Global Call To Action Against Poverty

As we commemorate the International Day of the African Child 16th June 2005

THEME: AFRICAN ORPHANS OUR COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY- GOVERNMENT ACT NOW ON MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)

Introduction

The Global Call to Action Against Poverty Uganda Coalition in a collective voice call upon the leadership in government and international community to ensure that the pledge of the Millennium Development Goals brings promise to reality. As the nation commemorates the Day of the African Child, the commitment of our government to the orphans & the-vulnerable African Child reminds us all of the importance of achieving the development agenda under the Millennium Development-Goals (MDGs).

At the UN Millennium Summit in 2000, the Government of Uganda on behalf the people of Uganda affirmed to the Millennium Declaration and achievement of eight MDGs by 2015.

The MDGs include among others: halving extreme poverty and hunger; ensuring all boys and girls complete primary education; ensure reduction of child mortality; promote gender equality and empower women; combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases; ensure environmental sustainability.

The goals were drawn out of a dire need, to free citizens from...abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty. A party.

to this Millennium objective is the African child and in this respect the orphaned and vulnerable children, specifically the girl child in Uganda, as the most marginalized of the population. The Millennium

Declaration earmarked the responsibility to eradicate poverty be shared globally. A Global Partnership for Development inter actors' from existing coalitions, community groups, trade unions; religious and faith groups, campaigners and more around the (common) cause of ending poverty.

By using key events in 2005, the GCAP alliance worldwide is planning for local, national and international activities to focus, the world's attention on eliminating poverty and achieving the UN's:

MDGs through actions that will raise a level of awareness on those issues that perpetuate poverty. These include:

- Trade injustice
- Debts
- Quantity and Quality of Aid
- Declining Government efforts towards the elimination of poverty and achievement of the MDGs

Mass mobilization and people centered advocacy is the strategy of the GCAP campaign

The leading goal of GCAP Uganda coalition is poverty reduction through CSO interventions and raising awareness on the GCAP objectives. The GCAP Uganda Coalition objectives are:

1. Remind government on their commitment to achieving MDGs as a framework of eliminating continuing poverty
2. Mobilize CSOs in Uganda to join the GCAP campaign in order to achieve our collective responsibility over our African children. Focus our actions on the plight of the child orphan in Northern Uganda, specifically the girl child
4. Hold public popular dialogues on pertinent issues critical to the orphaned children.

Therefore, in an effort to consolidate CSO actions, the GCAP coalition in Uganda in collaboration with OXFAM Nairobi, is seizing the opportunity of this day to call upon the Government of Uganda to act now on the MDGs. GCAP believes that such opportunity is key for government to track efforts for achieving MDGs and prevent further opportunities for the Uganda's leadership to reaffirm their commitments to the year 2000 UN MDGs declaration with emphasis on implementing and achieving the targets spelled out in the Millennium Development Framework.

A number of activities will be carried out to raise awareness on the MDGs and to call for government action to achieve the targets spelled out in the Millennium Development Framework.

poverty and its effects on the African Child and raises the voices of less privileged children in different parts of the country including children from conflict affected Northern Uganda and petition the leadership to double their efforts in addressing the plight of children that challenge the country's progress towards achieving the MDGs. In this respect the following activities will be undertaken on 16th June 2005.

A series of activities planned by the Coalition to mark the day include:

- A press conference [15/06/05]
- A procession
- A one-day exhibition
- Radio and TV talk shows
- Newspaper pullouts
- Production of a memorandum on the voices of the poor and orphaned children
- Issuing out of the white band

The GCAP Uganda Coalition on this day hopes to join hands with Central Government, Local Authorities, Private sector/Corporate world, Civil Societies and individuals... to ask politicians and leaders that they are doing to overcome poverty and to demand that they take action now.

The GCAP Coalition hopes also to hold a Popular Debate on "Poverty As the African Child's Enemy" in collaboration with the Council For Economic Empowerment of Women in Africa (CEEWA-Uganda).

GCAP Secretariat - African Women Economic Policy Network (AWEPON).
Anti Corruption Coalition,
Uganda Muslim Women Association for Development (UMWADD)

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Uganda Muslim Women Association for Development (UMWADD)

