

**Joint Statement by Mozambique, the Netherlands, Norway,
The United Republic of Tanzania, the United Kingdom and Malawi
on the Statement of the UNDP Administrator,
New York, 26 May 2009**

Mr President,
Madam Administrator,

I am delivering this statement on behalf of Mozambique, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Republic of Tanzania, the UK and my own country Malawi.

We are grateful to the Administrator for her address. We would also like to join others in congratulating her on her appointment and to assure her of our full support. The Administrator has set out a vision of how she will like to lead UNDP in tackling the challenges the world now faces and achieving the MDGs. We look forward to working in partnership with her.

Mr President,

The Administrator has highlighted poverty reduction and delivering the MDGs as crucial and immediate areas to focus on. We strongly support this. We know that the current economic crisis is threatening to unravel progress that has already been made. UNDP has a critical role in helping to monitor and to respond to the impact of the crisis on the development world. We also agree that UNDP has a particular role to play on Climate Change and that this is an important year in the run up to Copenhagen. Identifying a clear role for UNDP will be important.

Mr President,

The Administrator touched on the issue of UN reform. We agree that reform should not be an end in itself. The purpose is to make the UN system work more coherently and thus be more effective in assisting programme countries

reach their development goals. For UNDP and the UN Development System as a whole this means being able to demonstrate impact at the country level in delivering the MDGs. The quality of UN leadership in-country will continue to be critical to success. It is our expectation that the Resident Coordinator System will be further strengthened in order to play a key role in the effective and efficient functioning of the UN at country level.

National ownership and leadership are key to the implementation of the System-wide Coherence recommendations. The success of "Delivering as One" is about partnership. Both the UN system and member states have a common responsibility to put in place measures that are supportive of the aspirations of the many countries that now want to move towards "Delivering as One". For member states it means ensuring a new and more responsive governance structure and better funding practices. Feedback from the pilot countries suggests that the system at head quarters level still needs to do some work to catch up and respond to countries' needs.

As we reiterated in our last statement there is good news coming from the pilots. Significant savings are being realized. These savings should be ploughed back to the programme as additional resources for development at the country level. It is our expectation that the momentum for reform will continue with the support of member states and the UN system. As the implementation of System-wide Coherence continues in the pilot countries and other countries which have opted for the approach, we look forward to the pilots' country led evaluation as well as an independent evaluation to show the impact and relevance of this reform initiative in the United Nations system.

Mr President

We would like to support the Administrator's comments on her role as undg Chair. The UN development system needs to implement reforms to ensure that all UN agencies deliver in the most effective and efficient way possible, both in country and at headquarters. The Administrator's previous experience in driving through change will undoubtedly help to

ensure that the reform agenda is embedded in to UNDG's discussions as she leads the system to collective action. We would like to fully support her in these efforts

Thank you.