

Annex

The ten commitments of the World Summit for Social Development

At the World Summit for Social Development, held in March 1995, Governments adopted the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, and identified the eradication of poverty, the promotion of full employment and the fostering of social integration as goals of the highest priority for achieving secure, stable and just societies. At the heart of the Copenhagen Declaration are the ten commitments to social development agreed by the heads of State and Government at the Summit, which embody the global drive for social progress and development. The commitments are as follows:

Commitment 1: Create an enabling environment for social development

“We commit ourselves to creating an economic, political, social, cultural and legal environment that will enable people to achieve social development.”

Commitment 2: Eradicate poverty

“We commit ourselves to the goal of eradicating poverty in the world, through decisive national actions and international cooperation, as an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind.”

Commitment 3: Support full employment

“We commit ourselves to promoting the goal of full employment as a basic priority of our economic and social policies, and to enabling all men and women to attain secure and sustainable livelihoods through freely chosen productive employment and work.”

Commitment 4: Promote social integration

“We commit ourselves to promoting social integration by fostering societies that are stable, safe and just and that are based on the promotion and protection of all human rights, as well as on non-discrimination, tolerance, respect for diversity, equality of opportunity, solidarity, security, and participation of all people, including disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and persons.”

Commitment 5: Achieve equality and equity between women and men

“We commit ourselves to promoting full respect for human dignity and to achieving equality and equity between women and men, and to recogniz-

ing and enhancing the participation and leadership roles of women in political, civil, economic, social and cultural life and in development.”

Commitment 6: Attain universal and equitable access to quality education and primary health care

“We commit ourselves to promoting and attaining the goals of universal and equitable access to quality education, the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and the access of all to primary health care, making particular efforts to rectify inequalities relating to social conditions and without distinction as to race, national origin, gender, age or disability; respecting and promoting our common and particular cultures; striving to strengthen the role of culture in development; preserving the essential bases of people-centred sustainable development; and contributing to the full development of human resources and to social development. The purpose of these activities is to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration.”

Commitment 7: Accelerate development in Africa and the least developed countries

“We commit ourselves to accelerating the economic, social and human resource development of Africa and the least developed countries.”

Commitment 8: Ensure that structural adjustment programmes include social development goals

“We commit ourselves to ensuring that when structural adjustment programmes are agreed to they include social development goals, in particular eradicating poverty, promoting full and productive employment, and enhancing social integration.”

Commitment 9: Increase significantly and/or utilize more efficiently the resources allocated to social development

“We commit ourselves to increasing significantly and/or utilizing more efficiently the resources allocated to social development in order to achieve the goals of the Summit through national action and regional and international cooperation.”

Commitment 10: Promote an improved and strengthened framework for international, regional and subregional cooperation for social development

“We commit ourselves to an improved and strengthened framework for international, regional and subregional cooperation for social development, in a spirit of partnership, through the United Nations and other multilateral institutions.”