



Africa Action Plan: UK Progress Report

Foreword by the Rt. Hon. Tony Blair, Prime Minister



Africa is important to the United Kingdom. We have strong cultural, political and economic ties with many parts of the continent. These ties, historical and modern, help explain why Africa's future development and prosperity is a high priority for this Government – and why I am delighted to introduce this Progress Report on the Africa Action Plan.

Africa, of course, has major and inter-linked problems. They can only be solved by the continent's leaders and people working together. This is a long-term agenda, which requires sustained engagement and political commitment. I believe it is the responsibility of all of us – and certainly the responsibility of countries like the UK – to do all we can to support and help these efforts.

The enormity and complexity of the challenges facing Africa mean there are no instant solutions. But they are also a reason for action now, not for further delay. That, I'm delighted to say, is what we are seeing. Over the last two years, the commitment of a new generation of African leaders to put in place "a new partnership for Africa" has been very encouraging. NEPAD's objectives – good and accountable governments, an end to conflict, sound economic policies and action to tackle HIV/AIDS – are essential to eradicate poverty and generate wealth. African leaders are increasingly taking responsibility for addressing the causes of conflict, for attracting foreign investment and for managing the transition to democracy.

Africa's leaders have given us a lead and the continent's developmental partners are beginning to respond. At Kananaskis last year, we committed ourselves to a common set of objectives with our African partners and to improve the support and help we give them. This requires step changes, for instance, in both the quantity of development assistance and the way it is delivered, in the international trading system and in improving access to health and education for Africa's people.

To show how important we considered these objectives and to keep up the pressure on ourselves to help meet them, each G8 country has appointed their own "African Personal Representative". The UK's APR is Baroness Amos, who is also now the Secretary of State for International Development. She will bring her experience, unique skills and vision to the UK's continuing partnership with Africa.

This report details what the UK has done over the last year to help support progress in Africa. Much has been achieved, but, as we all know only too well, much remains to be done. I hope very much that in twelve months time we will – in Africa and within the G8 – all be able to show we have taken further steps towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony Blair". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

Rt. Hon. Tony Blair, Prime Minister.

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Britain published last year an Action Plan indicating what we would do to implement the commitments agreed in the G8 Africa Action Plan. This report sets out what we have done so far to deliver on these commitments. It represents work in progress, illustrating the continuing engagement between Britain and Africa in pursuit of our common objectives.

1 Promoting Peace and Security

Progress in Africa, and improvement in the lives of its people, has been undermined or destroyed by conflict and insecurity. Scarce resources needed to fight poverty have been wasted. Conflicts in one country have fuelled insecurity and instability in its neighbours. Without peace and security Africa will not realise the goals set out in the new Partnership for African Development (Extract from Africa Action Plan).

Conflict prevention and resolution is therefore a top priority for this Government. Conflict management and peace building is also at the heart of Government policy supported by joint work between DFID, FCO and MOD through the Africa Conflict Prevention Pool.

(i) Supporting African efforts to resolve the principal armed conflicts

1.1 Democratic Republic of Congo and the Greater Lakes Region: There has been progress in implementing the Pretoria Agreement and towards the formation of inclusive transitional government. The international community has supported disarmament, demobilisation, repatriation and reintegration and rehabilitation (DDRRR) in the DRC and the region.

1.2 Britain has taken a leading role within the Security Council in supporting the peace process. We have contributed over £2 million to the Facilitators Office for the inter-Congolese dialogue; supported UN peace support operations in the DRC (at a cost of about £35 million in 2002); committed \$25 million to regional DDRRR, as well as providing additional technical expertise; and given £5 million to enable the return and reintegration of Rwandans and irregular Rwandese forces.

1.3 Britain has continued to provide humanitarian support in the DRC through international agencies, the UN, and non-governmental organisations (£12 million over the last three years). In addition we have supported grass roots, quick impact projects designed to underpin peace and reconciliation in the Eastern Congo; for example we are contributing to UN Radio Okapi (\$1 million a year) and supporting a range of community-based projects (about £2 million a year).

1.4 Britain is drawing up a £16 million programme to support the establishment of the Transitional National Government which will include direct security support in Kinshasa as well as security sector reform and building

government institutions. We continue to support humanitarian programmes.

1.5 Burundi: Since the successful Presidential transition, although some fighting continues, prospects for peace have improved. Britain has significantly stepped up engagement in Burundi through humanitarian and civil society support (about £3 million a year) and through a contribution to the multi-lateral Debt Relief Trust Fund. In addition, to complement the mediation efforts of the South African team, assistance has been provided to NGOs who are working with the rebel factions that currently remain outside the Arusha Agreement.

1.6 Britain has continued to support African efforts in Burundi and has recently agreed to a £4million grant to support the Mozambique contingent of an African peacekeeping mission. We are willing to consider further support.

1.7 Rwanda: Rwanda continues to make progress in development and reconciliation. Successful local elections have been held; Presidential and Parliamentary elections will take place later this year. Britain continues to be the major bilateral development partner in Rwanda (providing about £37million in 2003). This partnership includes support for the process of reform and democratisation, conflict management and National reconciliation. Clare Short held two trilateral meetings over the past year with Presidents Museveni and Kagame in which mutual confidence building measures and commitments between Rwanda and Uganda to resolve problems bilaterally have been agreed. These have helped to help reduce tensions in the region, although the position in the Eastern DRC in particular remains fragile.

1.8 Sierra Leone: Peace has been maintained in Sierra Leone. There has been positive economic growth and successful elections have been held. Britain continues to be Sierra Leone's lead partner and earlier this year agreed a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding, committing us to provide £40 million development assistance a year, in addition to £14 million spent on British military advisory assistance. The UN continues to have a significant presence with UK contribution to UNAMSIL standing at £34 million. We have also provided additional military observers and key personnel.

1.9 Efforts continue to be made to tackle corruption. With our help Sierra Leone has established an Anti-Corruption Commission. We continue to provide support to substantial judicial, governance, and public sector reform programmes. Progress has been made in regularising management of diamond resources and new arrangements will be in place by the end of 2003.

1.10 Cote d'Ivoire: Over the last year Cote d'Ivoire has been beset by violent conflict which threatens broader regional instability, Africa has deployed forces mandated by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); Britain contributed £2 million to facilitate Ghana's participation.

1.11 Sudan: Progress has been made in the peace talks between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement. This has been facilitated by the Inter-Governmental Agreement on Development Secretariat and international observers from the UK, US, Norway and Italy. Following a recent summit there is a reasonable expectation that a comprehensive

peace agreement can be secured within the next few months.

1.12 Britain has supported these efforts directly through a contribution to monitoring of the ceasefire in the Nuba mountains (£1.5 million); by facilitating talks on security issues; and through discussions on the ways to resolve Sudan's very considerable debt burden. All these are an essential precondition for reconstruction and development. Britain's programme (£14 million a year) is focused on humanitarian and quick start projects, delivered through non-governmental and community organisations.

1.13 Angola: The position in Angola has stabilised. The UN mandate for post-conflict reconstruction is now being implemented by its operational agencies. Sanctions against UNITA were lifted at the end of 2002. Demobilisation of over 100,000 UNITA forces has started, to which the UK has contributed \$25 million as well as providing technical expertise. Direct bilateral engagement focused on supporting the process of political inclusion; movement towards elections in 2005; macro-economic reform; and continuing humanitarian programmes – amounting to about £8 million in 2003.

(ii) Providing technical and financial assistance so that, by 2010, African countries and regional and sub-regional organisations are able to engage more effectively to prevent and resolve violent conflicts on the continent and to undertake peace support operations

1.14 A draft peace plan for training and operational support has been developed and agreed within the G8. The UN's Department

of Peacekeeping Operations will be closely involved in implementing it.

(iii) Supporting African efforts and the United Nations better to regulate the activities of arms brokers and traffickers and to eliminate the flow of illicit weapons

1.15 The G8 has made significant progress in developing and implementing common standards in arms exports controls. Britain has led efforts to develop common international standards and secured in December 2002 agreement to the "Best Practice Guidelines in the Export of Small Arms and Light Weapons". In April 2003 the UK convened a workshop to discuss integrating small arms and light weapons controls into development programmes and to increase coordination and cooperation. 49 arms exporting states attended. A UN meeting will be held in July.

1.16 Britain has pledged over £20 million to combat the proliferation of small arms. This includes the development of regional programmes in East Africa, the Great Lakes and Southern Africa; the development of national action plans; and support for capacity building and civil society organisations.

2 Strengthening Institutions and Governance

NEPAD rightly concludes that “development is impossible in the absence of true democracy, respect for human rights, peace and good governance”.

2.1 Effective institutions, representative democracy and accountable government are essential conditions for private sector investment, growth and poverty reduction in Africa. Progress has been made in a number of African countries where democratic transition through elections and improved public expenditure management has been translated into positive economic growth. Progress is evident also in the number of countries who remain on track with IMF and World Bank supported programmes. Governance is a major focus of Britain’s bilateral development partnerships in Africa and underpins the increasing volume of resources provided through direct budget and sector support.

(i) Supporting NEPAD

2.2 The NEPAD secretariat has successfully expanded its operations, and promoted its principles in Africa. The UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has also played an important role in developing codes and standards in government and in helping to develop peer review arrangements. British assistance includes £500,000 support to the NEPAD secretariat in collaboration with the UNDP and a multi year programme of institutional support for the UNECA.

2.3 Since February 2001 the UK has provided £600,000 to UNECA to complete a number of “governance assessments” (covering economic management, political representation, institutional effectiveness and accountability) in 14 African countries. 12 of these are now completed and 16 more countries will be included in the second phase.

(ii) Supporting African peer-review arrangements

2.4 The UK welcomes the NEPAD peer review mechanism. The UK will support the development of civil society capacity in Southern and Eastern Africa to monitor the peer review process. We continue to participate in DAC peer reviews and we welcome the initiative for DAC countries to be reviewed against quality, quantity and coherence criteria. We have supported proposals for African participation in the process and will continue to lobby for this.

(iii) Strengthening capacity-building programmes related to economic and corporate governance in Africa

2.5 The Africa Capacity Building Foundation, which is central to Africa’s ability to manage its own economic and social transformation, has been strengthened. We have made three pledges to the ACBF totalling approximately £15 million; the most recent phase of £9 million was agreed in November 2002 and we will continue to be actively involved. We are also supporting the African Regional Technical Assistance Centre (AFRITAC) to build macro-economic capacity.

(iv) Intensifying support for the adoption and implementation of effective measures to combat corruption, bribery and embezzlement

2.6 In addition to the support provided to the Anti-Corruption Commission in Sierra Leone, we are providing anti-corruption assistance in Malawi, Uganda, Nigeria, and are currently helping with diagnostic surveys in Zambia and Mozambique. In Zambia, the UK has played a lead role in donor co-ordination on corruption issues, and in developing a joint donor-government strategy for tackling corruption.

2.7 The UK is providing support for the East and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group, which brings together 12 countries in the region and includes peer evaluation. The UK is funding a post in the secretariat to provide strategic direction to the group. The UK National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS) is providing expertise in financial intelligence monitoring to the group.

(v) Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)

2.8 The UK has led this initiative. It aims to promote transparency in the oil, gas and mining sectors, including company payments **and** host government revenues. A wide range of interested parties, including developed, transition and developing countries, oil gas and mining companies, international organisations and NGOs have worked together to shape the initiative.

2.9 An international meeting has been organised for 17 June 2003 to build on momentum from the G8 and this group of interested parties. The Chair of the meeting will aim to bring participants in the process together to agree a Statement of Principles and actions to move the initiative forward. We will be encouraging countries dependent on oil, gas and mining to offer to pilot the new approach to transparency.

3 Fostering Trade, Investment, Economic Growth and Sustainable Development

Economic growth is essential for poverty reduction and development. Resources available for development, including aid resources, must be used more effectively.

3.1 Economic growth requires effective institutions to promote increased production. The private sector will be the engine for growth in Africa. While growth rates have increased in recent years they are still too low. Britain continues to argue strongly that the interests of developing countries have to be taken into account in international economic and trade discussions.

(i) Trade and the Doha Development Round

3.2 We want the review of the WTO, World Bank, UNCTAD and UNDP Integrated Framework (IF) technical assistance programme to be completed prior to the WTO Cancun Ministerial. This should help to make the IF more responsive to Africa's needs. We are also considering support for IF diagnostic studies in Ghana and Kenya.

3.3 Britain has commissioned research on preference schemes to show which are most beneficial for African exporters. Preliminary findings, and recent World Bank research, highlight the importance of more flexible rules of origin to make these schemes work better.

3.4 Britain continues to support regional integration in Africa, for example through the EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations, and capacity building through the Overseas Development Institute and

the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) in Maastricht. Britain is designing a £10 million regional trade facilitation project in Southern Africa, including support for the SADC and COMESA secretariats.

(ii) Infrastructure development

3.5 In addition to helping countries provide the necessary enabling environment, Britain supports public/private partnerships, and investment in infrastructure. The Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF) offers advice and technical assistance to governments in Africa. Britain has contributed \$100 million to the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Facility (EAIF) since its launch at the end of 2002. The Facility is designed to promote private sector investment in infrastructure and has already attracted \$205 million from the private sector and has developed a pipeline of prospective investments. It recently made its first formal investment in a pan-African telecommunications company.

3.6 The private sector has helped to identify constraints to their involvement in infrastructure projects in Africa and other developing countries, are now being addressed. For example, the Global Partnership for Output Based Aid, launched in early 2003 is working in partnership with the World Bank to pilot new vehicles for public funding of delivery of basic services to the poor.

(iii) Private sector investment

3.7 The NEPAD Business Group (NBG) brings together eleven major African and global

business associations, including the Commonwealth Business Council (CBC). It represents a structured effort to bring business perspectives into NEPAD thinking, and involves both African and international business.

3.8 Britain is supporting the CBC's national consultations with African business. This will help produce policy analyses and action plans which map out constraints and opportunities for the private sector in working with the NEPAD process.

3.9 The CDC (formerly the Commonwealth Development Corporation) will be launching two Africa Funds over the next five years. The business plan (still under discussion) proposes a \$350 million fund for launch in 2003, and a \$480 million fund for 2006 (which includes \$160 million of private capital). CDC already has funds and investments in Africa including SME funds and investments in power, healthcare and agriculture.

(iv) Aid effectiveness

3.10 Britain is trying to increase the value of its development assistance through long-term partnerships, responding to African priorities and strategies to reduce poverty. We have "untied" our aid from any British commercial interests. We work closely with other bilateral and multilateral development agencies to minimise the burden on developing countries of different donors' requirements.

3.11 Long term partnerships: We have reviewed how we allocate our aid. DFID's revised spending plans for country programmes set out how Britain will meet the Monterrey commitment to direct at least 50% of new resources to Africa. For better performing countries, we are providing high and

predictable levels of funding, increasingly through support direct to budgets. For countries not performing well (not trying to reduce poverty, or countries in conflict) we cannot engage in the same way. Instead, we focus on providing humanitarian assistance, on dialogue and on building local capacity to help create an environment where financial resources can be used more effectively in the future.

3.12 Britain has signed long-term partnership agreements with several African governments committed to eliminating poverty, including Rwanda, Ethiopia and Sierra Leone. Similar agreements are being developed with a number of other countries including Ghana, Mozambique and Tanzania. In all these countries, the majority of UK resources will be channelled through direct budget support.

3.13 Responding to African priorities and strategies: Britain played a key role in the Strategic Partnership with Africa (SPA)'s programme of action to stimulate progress by donors in aligning their support with national Poverty Reduction Strategies, to monitor the results and to track the quality and volume of aid flows to Africa. The UK is chairing one of the developing countries' two working groups taking this forward. With the EC and African counterparts, the UK-led SPA missions to Ethiopia, Rwanda and Senegal to help identify concrete steps to make donors' behaviour more responsive to developing countries priorities.

3.14 A framework for monitoring, including indicators of progress, is currently being developed. The work on developing indicators is being taken forward with the OECD/DAC and the UNECA.

3.15 Harmonisation – corporation between

donors: Britain produced an action plan in February 2003 setting out how it will enhance the effectiveness of its development assistance by adopting the principles and good practices set out in the DAC's 'Harmonising Donor Practices for Effective Aid Delivery'. It includes:

- review of UK development assistance procedures;
- revision of UK guidance material and training to programme managers;
- country specific initiatives to simplify aid delivery on the ground; and
- work with multilateral development organisations to make their procedures more simple and flexible.

3.16 At the Rome DAC High Level Forum in February 2003, Canada, France, Japan and the US as well as the UK, set out the action they proposed to take to implement DAC good practice. We have encouraged other donors to do likewise. The High Level Forum:

- endorsed the DAC good practice work, together with the parallel work done by the international financial institutions on harmonisation of their own practices and procedures;
- made a commitment progressively to implement the good practices developed; and
- agreed that further work should be undertaken to track and refine indicators to implement the good practices developed;

3.17 G7 members are also working together in the DAC on these improvements to the way donors work.

4 Implementing Debt Relief

Our objective remains to assist countries to reduce poverty by enabling them to exit the HIPC process with sustainable levels of debt.

4.1 Britain continues to press for “topping up” for countries with debts above the HIPC threshold at completion point. We also want to see the HIPC methodology re-examined in order to ensure real debt sustainability. This will allow countries to access resources that will enable them to make faster progress towards the achievement of the MDGs. The UK is working on this through the World Bank and IMF Boards, the G7, and in bilateral contacts.

4.2 Replenishment of the HIPC Trust Fund has been agreed. The UK made a further pledge of US\$95million bringing our total contribution to the Fund to over \$400million in addition to our share of EC commitments.

5 Expanding Knowledge: Improving and Promoting Education and Expanding Digital Opportunities

(i) Education

Our primary objective has been to improve the quality of education at all levels in Africa by increasing support to basic education; promoting equal access for girls; and the development of sound education plans.

5.1 Britain's contribution to basic education in Africa continues to increase. Overall UK has committed £700 million since 1997 and over the next 5 years we expect to spend an additional £1,300 million on the achievement of universal primary education. Of this £500 million will be in Africa. In Africa estimated expenditure on education has risen from £105 million in 2002 to £175 million in 2003.

5.2 We have continued to engage with the World Bank Fasttrack Initiative to help make it a more effective forum for donor coordination in support of the education MDGs. We have been successful in ensuring that it is linked to nationally-owned strategies and includes those countries with the most children out of school such as Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Britain has committed £12.5 million in technical support in Nigeria alongside \$100 million in financial support from the World Bank. We have been working with the World Bank in Kinshasa and will provide additional support for education planning and for education programmes.

5.3 We are also working with the international community in education:

- With UNICEF/UNGEI we have just agreed to provide £2.1 million over two years to support UNICEF's Accelerated Strategy for

Girls' Education. We hope to make UNICEF's strategy more effective in advocating and implementing girls' education in Africa.

- With the World Bank and UNICEF: we will engage with the Bank and UNICEF in a partnership and are discussing levels of financial support. The Partnership will help to analyse obstacles to girls' educational progress and provide technical support to overcome these. In Nigeria, the Partnership has commissioned work to identify obstacles to girls' education.
- With the Africa Virtual University, where we have committed £2 million.

(ii) Expanding digital opportunities

5.4 The UK is supporting NEPAD's e-Commission to help them develop their educational strategy across the continent. The UK gives financial support to the Limpopo Department of Education, Khanyisa Programme, to develop a knowledge and communication strategy. We are also supporting the development of multifunctional resource centres in South Africa and Ethiopia.

5.5 The UK is working with civil society groups and others in Ethiopia to identify how best ICT can be used to support women and girls, through activities such as Girls Clubs.

5.6 The UK has created a partnership, IMFUNDO (£7 million over five years) of over 40 private-sector, civil society, global organisations and academic institutions to deliver educational ICT activities in Africa.

6 Improving Health and Confronting HIV/AIDS

The UK is fully committed to continuing with efforts to eliminate polio, and to put in place a system of differential pricing of medicines and build up basic healthcare systems in order to ensure medicines and treatment are available and affordable across Africa.

(i) Access to medicines

6.1 The Africa Action Plan committed G8 countries to 'pressing ahead with current work with the international pharmaceutical industry, affected African countries and civil society to promote the availability of an adequate supply of life-saving medicines in an affordable and medically effective manner'. Since Kananaskis, there has been progress against this goal, and we hope the G8 will commit themselves to further specific action at Evian.

6.2 The UK high-level Working Group on Increasing Access to Essential Medicines in the Developing World, chaired by Clare Short, issued its report in November 2002. The report outlines key recommendations for action, including that more affordable essential medicines for least developed countries can be made available *as the operational norm* (and therefore on a sustainable and predictable basis) through a voluntary framework. This framework outlines actions and partnership required from a broad range of stakeholders. These actions go further than pricing, although price and affordability remain important. The recommendations of the high-level Working Group are being taken forward by UK officials working in partnership with others,

including developing country partners, G8 and non-G8 donors, industry and civil society. We hope soon to be able to apply this framework in one or two African countries.

6.3 For actions to increase affordability and access to succeed, countries must prevent the re-importation of differentially priced medicines from their intended developing country market back to wealthier markets. One way of ensuring this is through trade regulations to prevent the re-importation of differentially priced medicines. An EU regulation designed to address this issue has now been agreed.

(ii) Health Systems

6.4 Britain has committed over £1,500 million since 1997 to support the development of health systems in partner countries. Britain has encouraged a number of focused efforts to move international attention on to health systems. In particular, since Kananaskis, the UK has worked closely with the World Bank and the Canadian Government to contribute to thinking on how to build better health systems as a means of scaling up to meet the health MDGs. The UK, Canada and the World Bank co-chaired a meeting in Ottawa in May 2003 to take forward this framework.

(iii) Polio

6.5 The objective remains to fill the overall funding gap of US \$275 million (of which US \$200 million is needed for Africa). The UK is supporting WHO's Polio Eradication Initiative (PEI) in its efforts to convert the G8 commitment

into firm funding pledges from the G8 and other donors. Britain has contributed over US \$354 million to polio eradication since 1988. At Kananaskis we committed an additional US \$25 million to the PEI to help close the *immediate* funding gap (US\$33 million is required by September 2003).

6.6 Britain has also been working directly with countries where polio is endemic, providing direct financial support and technical assistance.

(iv) HIV/AIDS

6.7 The Africa Action Plan includes a number of commitments to combat the effects of HIV/AIDS, across a range of intervention areas from prevention, care and treatment to strengthening policy and technical capacity and systems. Britain currently supports programmes to tackle sexually transmitted infections and HIV/AIDS in 39 countries across the world, including intensive bilateral action in Africa. Britain is the second largest contributor to HIV/AIDS programmes with bilateral spending of £250 million on HIV/AIDS in 2002. We have also committed significant additional resources through multilaterals and to the development of global public goods such as vaccine and microbicide development. Britain initially committed \$200 million to the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria, \$80 million of which has been disbursed. We are increasing now our contribution to \$280 million.

6.8 Examples of UK direct bilateral support for HIV programmes in Africa include:

- Uganda, support to Government-led (and increasingly multisectoral) approaches, in collaboration with UNAIDS and the Uganda

AIDS Commission. Total expenditure is expected to be £6.2 million over four years;

- Ethiopia, Rwanda, Burundi and Ghana: provision of £25 million over three years to the International Partnership Against AIDS in Africa (IPAA) to enable them to develop strategic partnerships, expand their activities, promote African leadership and strengthen capacity;
- Mozambique: working through the national plan to support multisectoral government activities, civil society organisations and social marketing (£24 million over five years);
- Malawi: a programme of just under £2 million is in place, with another programme of £3.5 million being planned to the National Aids Commission;
- Zimbabwe: £5 million per annum on prevention and care activities;
- Kenya: £5 million per year supporting government programmes and a further £1.5 million on the social marketing of condoms;
- Tanzania: £20 million over four years (plus more through budget support); and
- Nigeria: between £9 million and £12 million per annum.

7 Increasing Agricultural Productivity

In addition to promoting trade reform, Britain supports calls for greater attention to agricultural development.

7.1 We support African poverty reduction strategies which address related constraints such as infrastructure, credit markets and revenue policy. Examples of our activities are:

- £300,000 (with additional finance from USAID and the Rockefeller Foundation) to support the design of the African Agricultural Technology Foundation, an African-led joint donor public-private partnership to access and develop agricultural technology in Africa. We are currently negotiating a five year financial support package for its implementation; and
- £16 million in 2002/03 to support African agricultural research through the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and UK research programmes. This complements our bilateral work with regional and national research organisations in Africa.

(i) Food Security

7.2 The international community has responded quickly and effectively to the humanitarian crisis in Southern Africa and the Horn of Africa which affects some 26 million people. Britain is a major contributor to humanitarian relief – we are the second largest donor in Southern Africa. Total UK contributions to the Southern Africa crisis (including those directed through the European

Commission and UN agencies) are over £125 million. Our direct response to the humanitarian needs in Ethiopia and Eritrea, amounts to over £48 million. We have worked through a range of organisations, UN bodies, the World Food Programme, UNICEF, and NGOs.

7.3 Britain's response is more than the provision of food aid. We have extensive bilateral programmes in the region supporting recovery operations and agricultural development projects. These include related emergency infrastructure investments, such as the rehabilitation of the Nacala rail link to enable food shipments to Malawi.

7.4 Britain has supported improved regional co-ordination including better targeting of food aid by assessing the most vulnerable communities. We have supported research into the root causes of the crisis. We are developing a regional food security programme, including work with SADC and regional Governments. We are committed to continue providing appropriate humanitarian assistance and to address the poverty that causes hunger and food insecurity.

8 Improving Water Resource Management

The provision of infrastructure for water is central to achieving sustainable water resources management and services delivery, including sanitation.

8.1 Our objectives are to:

- continue to work with the African Ministers' Conference on Water on finance issues following the launch of the EU Water Initiative at the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto, March 2003;
- support the Third World Water Forum in Kyoto to review World Summit for Sustainable Development actions: financing possibilities, to set a framework for country-by-country assessment of gaps, necessary policy reforms and private sector participation;
- continue support for the Nile Basin Initiative; and
- continue support for the Partners for Water and Sanitation Initiative launched at Johannesburg.

(i) The EU Water Initiative

8.2 Britain is a key contributor to the EU 'Water for Life' Initiative launched at the World Summit in Johannesburg in 2002 and is leading on the Finance Component. We are working with member states to ensure that it moves from discussion to action on the ground. Britain played an active role in Kyoto in taking forward the vision for supporting the sustainable management of water resources and the provision of services including sanitation for the

poor. We have supported major seminars and public debates to inform the Kyoto discussions, and the "Secure Water" research project presented at the Forum.

(ii) The Nile Basin Initiative

8.3 Britain pledged support to the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) at the International Consortium for Co-operation on the Nile (ICCON) conference in 2001, working in partnership with the riparian states, the World Bank and other donors. The NBI is now at a stage of moving from policy to action, with the preparation by country representatives of a number of basin wide and sub basin programmes and projects.

8.4 We have agreed to support two basin-wide projects: the water resources planning and management project (WRPM) and the socio-economic development and benefit sharing project (SDBS).

(iii) Partners for Water and Sanitation

8.5 Partners for Water and Sanitation aims to help address water and sanitation crises through Agenda 21, and to help reach the Millennium Development Targets on water and sanitation. Partners for Water and Sanitation represents the British Government, the private sector (including professional bodies and industry organizations) and civil society organizations (including NGOs and Trade Unions). Recipient governments will select suitable municipalities; the partnership will work with them and local communities to identify needs, and agree how partnership expertise can be used most effectively.

The focus is on secondary towns and peri-urban areas in Africa:

- South Africa, where the partnership is commencing work with four municipalities;
- Nigeria, where initial scoping visits have been held, and engagement in four towns is being considered; and
- Uganda, where a scoping visit has been held, the partnership was represented at the annual sector review at the end of September and discussions are continuing on the scope for partnership involvement.

Britain looks forward to continuing to work with its G8 and African partners in the years to 2014 in order to achieve the MDGs.

Department for International Development

The Department for International Development (DFID) is the UK Government department responsible for promoting sustainable development and reducing poverty. The central focus of the Government's policy, based on the 1997 and 2000 White Papers on International Development, is a commitment to the internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals, to be achieved by 2015.

These seek to:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development.

DFID's assistance is concentrated in the poorest countries of sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, but also contributes to poverty reduction and sustainable development in middle-income countries, including those in Latin America and Eastern Europe.

DFID works in partnership with governments committed to the Millennium Development Goals, with civil society, the private sector and the research community. It also works with multilateral institutions, including the World Bank, United Nations agencies, and the European Commission.

DFID has headquarters in London and East Kilbride, offices in many developing countries, and staff based in British embassies and high commissions around the world.

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