



**RESPONSE TO OWG 12, GOAL 1: End Poverty in all its forms everywhere
Major Working Group, Division for Sustainable Development, June 16-20, 2014**

Mr. Chairman: I am Queen Mother Dr. Delois Blakely, Community Mayor of Harlem, Ambassador Goodwill to Africa and Founder of NGO New Future Foundation, Inc., of the United States. As we look across the globe we see that human poverty and suffering is having negative impacts on the social and economic stability of peoples on every continent. We believe that by 2030 we can eradicate extreme poverty by bringing the number of people living on less than \$2.00 a day to zero is achievable. **(Target 1.1)** To Empower and promote the social and economic inclusion of the poor, the marginalized and people in vulnerable situation, including indigenous peoples, women, minorities, migrants, persons with disabilities, older persons and children and youth by 2030 **(Target 1.3)** We must fully implement nationally appropriate socially protection measures including floors with a focus on coverage of the poor, the most marginalized and people in vulnerable situations, including indigenous peoples, women, minorities, and migrants, persons with disabilities, older persons, children and youth. As the economic gap between the have and the have-nots grows, the struggle for human survival pits man against woman, adult against child, and government against everyday citizens, engendering civil unrest, human strife, the proliferation of violence, and compounded despair. **(Target 1.4)** Examples include the Arab Spring and the Occupy Wall Street Movements.

These problems primarily arise from aristocratic and corporate greed, which exclude the pursuance of sustained and inclusive economic growth as a key enabler for achieving poverty eradication **(Target 1.7)** it also excludes the average citizen from meaningful participation in governmental decision making, and consigns millions globally to conditions of poverty, homelessness, and chronic illnesses in their own respective countries. According to the United Nations World Food Program, an astonishing 21,000 people die every day from hunger or hunger related problems. That is one death every four seconds due to that person not having sufficient food to sustain his or her life. To be sure, every human being is entitled to fundamental human rights, including the right to eat, the right to shelter, and the right to clothe their bodies to protect themselves from the elements.

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We agree (**Target 1.4**) that by 2030 we must achieve equal access to productive employment and decent work for all, including the poor, persons with disabilities and other people in vulnerable situations.

Mr. Chairman, the solution to ending world poverty lies in harvesting human resources, which is a process whereby the needs and ideas of the poor and the powerless will be taken into account as we move toward more sustainable and prosperous societies **Target 1.7** related to “pursue sustained and inclusive economic growth as a key enable for achieving poverty eradication”. It is by this inclusiveness that countries can benefit holistically from the human talents, abilities, and other innate gifts with which the Creator has endowed us as human beings.

Finally, as mentioned in **Target 1.3**, I would like to highlight the World Bank Group Goals dealing with “Eradicating poverty” Eradicating poverty by 2030 will require a fall in poverty by about one percentage point per year during this period as well as maintaining a growth rate of per capita household income in the developing world at least as high as that achieved since 1999. While at a global level it is possible to achieve poverty eradication, regions, countries and pockets within countries are more difficult to reach.. Countries suffering from conflict and disaster will be difficult to achieve total eradication given the breakdown in governance, which will be a key factor needed for adequate service delivery, transparent and accountable public spending. We must ensure (**Target 1.5**) by 2030 development opportunities for all men and women , including securing rights to own land, property and other productive resources, as well as access to financial services, with particular focus on the poor, the most marginalized.

Let us turn to these solutions with the utmost deliberateness and resolve. Let us all work toward ending poverty in all forms and in every place that it exists.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Dated: June 20, 2014