

**The United Nations
Development
Assistance Framework
in the Philippines
(2005-2009)**

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Section 1:

Introduction

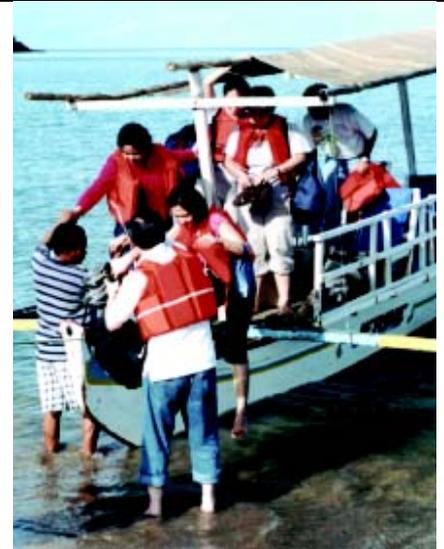
Human development is likeliest to improve when Governments, civil society, United Nations organisations and development partners concentrate their human and financial resources - and their efforts - toward realising a set of clearly articulated goals. Such objectives are embodied in the Millennium Declaration and the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for 2015, which are universally accepted goals for improved quality of life for the Earth's 6 billion people. Each goal addresses an aspect of human rights and the most compelling of human desires - a world free of poverty and the misery that poverty breeds. Multisectoral responses that tackle these goals simultaneously are required.

To assist the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) in meeting these global goals as well as national priorities, the United Nations System will draw upon its unique diversity and better coordinate its efforts at the country level through this United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2005-2009, or UNDAF. Keeping in mind the United Nations Agencies' own distinct mandates, competencies and resources, the UNDAF provides the basis for individual organizations' Country Programmes, which support expected UNDAF Outcomes.

Human security and human development will be the comprehensive focus, including protecting people's lives from poverty as well as from conflict. In particular, people who face critical and pervasive threats poor and vulnerable groups will be at the center of the development agenda. In all of these efforts, the United Nations System, with the GRP, will promote increasing participation of the Philippines' multiethnic society, encouraging social inclusion through active public participation and partnership, and will pay particular attention to the social dimensions of the country's efforts toward poverty reduction and sustainable growth.

Coordinated action is particularly needed for a country such as the Philippines, which confronts extraordinary constraints and uncertainties despite much progress in implementing complex reforms. As analysed in the Common Country Assessment (CCA), the key underlying causes of poverty and exclusion in the country are rooted in three broad themes: inequitable economic growth and ownership of assets; severely unequal access to opportunities and basic social services; and inability of key change agents, particularly women, to play an active role in improving their lives and those of others. All have significantly undermined rights-based development, and all may be widened further by the effects of globalisation, even as the Philippines advocates for a more equitable global trade regime.

Based on the national per-capita poverty threshold of PhP11,605 (USD264), income poverty has been reported as remaining much higher in the Philippines than in any other nation in Southeast Asia_at 34 percent (2000 poverty incidence of population), even higher than during the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis. The most prosperous third of the population earns two-thirds of total national income, the poorest third only 7.9 percent. Moreover, nearly two-thirds of the poor live in rural



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areas_where more than 7 in 10 farmers do not own the land they cultivate_and in certain regions, such as those with large populations of Indigenous Peoples, located in 50 out of 78 provinces, representing 8.2 percent of the population.

But there is more: The Philippines' total fertility rate is 3.5 children per woman, well above that of any other Asian country. Total population is estimated at 82 million, growing at an annual rate of 2.36 percent, one of Asia's highest. Had the population grown only at the same rate as Thailand's, where the fertility rate is 1.8, it has been estimated that per-capita GDP would have been 50 percent higher than it now stands. In addition, about 172 women for every 100,000 livebirths in the Philippines die from maternal causes. Nearly 1 in 5 children aged 5 to 17 is working, many in hazardous and exploitative conditions. Only 40 percent of members of groups at high risk of contracting HIV consistently use condoms _ posing a serious threat despite the current low prevalence rate while tuberculosis is the sixth-leading cause of mortality and malaria the eighth-leading cause of morbidity.

Ensuring that the benefits of growth and development are equitably shared among citizens is particularly daunting. Poor and vulnerable groups include the rural and urban poor; working children, children without primary caregivers; abused/trafficked women; displaced persons; children caught in armed conflicts; and Indigenous Peoples. To achieve the MDGs by 2015 or earlier __ as well as to underscore the UNDAF's continuing relevance __ the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) has emphasised the creation of an enabling environment that enhances Government's ability to formulate rights-based and pro-poor policies as well as to build capacities to pursue and institutionalise political, economic and social reforms. In addition, the UNDAF is a living document and has been designed to be flexible enough to reflect the priorities/platform of the administration after the 2004 elections

Executive Summary

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is the result of an ongoing consultative process intended to provide an analysis of how the United Nations System can respond to national priorities and needs. The UNDAF is guided by the goals and targets of the Millennium Declaration of 2000, signed by the Government of the Philippines, and the detailed national priorities of the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan 2001-2004. The UNDAF translates these into a common operational framework for development activities upon which the individual United Nations Agencies, Funds and Programmes will formulate their actions for the period 2005-2009.

The UNDAF thus frames the United Nations System's assistance to the people and Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP). Five inter-related areas of cooperation have emerged as particularly critical for the United Nations System's support between 2005 and 2009: macroeconomic stability, broad-based and equitable development; basic social services; good governance; environmental sustainability; and conflict prevention and peace-building.

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework in the Philippines

United Nations Message



THE United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Kofi Annan, has given the United Nations a renewed purpose and energy through his reform agenda. Now in its second generation, this agenda points the way towards a stronger, more focused United Nations, better placed to support national partners in achieving their own development goals. As part of this reform, the United Nations system at the country level now prepares a Common Country Assessment (CCA) of the development challenges of a country in full consultation with its key stakeholders. A United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is then proposed to spell out how the United Nations believes it can best contribute to supporting progress on the issues identified in the Common Country Assessment.

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is the United Nations' covenant with the government and people of the Philippines. It holds the United Nations systems accountable for certain development outcomes resulting from the individual efforts of United Nations organizations and equally important, the synergy of the various United Nations organizations working together as a team.

Stemming from the analysis of the Common Country Assessment, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the Philippines 2005-2009 has identified five key strategic areas to which the United Nations in the Philippines believes it can contribute: macroeconomic stability, broad-based and equitable development; basic social services; good governance; environmental sustainability; and conflict prevention and peace-building.

Coordination and partnerships will continue to be the hallmarks of United Nations work in the country going forward, focusing on assisting the Government of the Philippines in meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

The United Nations is deeply committed to the Government and people of the Philippines and looks forward to continuing its support to the country in the years ahead.

DEBORAH LANDEY

United Nations Resident Coordinator

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Deborah Landey'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

National Economic and Development Authority



Message

ON behalf of the Philippine Government, I would like to congratulate the UN Country Team under the leadership of UN Resident Coordinator Deborah Landey for coming up with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2005-2009, which takes off from a Common Country Assessment (CCA).

I laud the men and women comprising the UN Country Team for taking on the task of assisting the Philippine Government in fighting poverty through this UNDAF. I am well aware that this framework was completed through a broad participatory consultation process.

The UNDAF will surely help realize our aspirations for a better quality of life for all Filipinos, linked as it is to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the priorities of the Philippine Government.

The adoption of a common framework such as the UNDAF gives greater meaning to the partnership among the UN agencies, the Philippine Government, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders. Forging this kind of partnership is critical to enhancing development effectiveness and efficiency.

Moreover, I believe a knowledge partnership must be in place so that such intellectual capital is maximized and shared for the improvement of productivity and income. Let me invite the entire UN Family along with other donor agencies and stakeholders to establish a knowledge partnership at NEDA.

The task at hand is to make UNDAF useful and meaningful. Thus, there is a need to set up necessary structural systems for knowledge to reach the poor. Together, let us realize this commitment.

Again, I commend the efforts of those who were involved in coming up with this document. May your dedication and zeal inspire other organizations and sectors of society to work cooperatively in uplifting the lives of the Filipino people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Romulo L. Neri', written in a cursive style.

ROMULO L. NERI

Socioeconomic Planning Secretary and

NEDA Director-General

Section 2: Results

2.1 National Development Goals, Strategies and Priorities

In its quest to become a modern and prosperous nation, the Philippines has focused its development agenda on four areas: (1) macroeconomic stability with equitable growth based on free enterprise; (2) agriculture and fisheries modernisation with social equity; (3) comprehensive human development and protection of the vulnerable; and (4) good governance and the rule of law. These priorities are reflected in the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) 2001-2004. The MTPDP is supported by the Government's banner programme for poverty reduction, the *Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan (KALAHI)*, a comprehensive and integrated convergence strategy to deliver services to the poorest areas of the country through local government units (LGUs), improvement of efficiency and effectiveness of the use of public funds and the involvement of the private sector. The Philippines signed the Millennium Declaration in 2000, committing itself to international peace and security, development and poverty eradication through achievement of the MDGs, and attendance to the needs of the most vulnerable, while promoting human rights, democracy and good governance.

2.2 Strategic Areas of Development Cooperation

Not only does the UNDAF provide a framework for future collaboration, but it also results from a comprehensive, dynamic and participatory process that ensures learning from past performance. Preparations for the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and UNDAF exercises began in late 2002 with trainings on the rights-based approach to development and the conduct of a gender assessment of development trends, challenges and outcomes in the country.

Following development of an initial CCA framework, the Executive Committee Agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA) conducted individual assessments of the national development situation, involving causality and SWOT analysis, clustering of issues and scenario-building. A multisectoral workshop with Government and civil society analysed national priorities, the Millennium Declaration and MDGs and developed six themes for further consideration. Thematic Working Groups then conducted individual in-depth workshops for each theme, which led to a further plenary session with key partners where the conceptual analysis of the final CCA was developed. Throughout these efforts, the CCA Core Group of senior United Nations programme officers and experts in individual thematic areas was active. At an UNDAF prioritisation workshop in October 2003, the CCA findings were refined in line with national priorities, the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs, and consensus was reached on five priority areas of UNDAF cooperation.

The priority areas are:

- Macroeconomic stability, broad-based and equitable development
- Basic social services

- Good governance
- Environmental sustainability
- Conflict prevention and peace building

In all five areas, the United Nations System offers comparative advantages with regard to achieving tangible progress toward the MDGs, drawing on its values, its successful global knowledge base, best practices and lessons learned; its strong normative mandate; its neutrality; and its ability to encourage efficient coordination and facilitate accountability among donors. The United Nations System is well placed to advocate broad policy, legislative and administrative reforms, for example, by supporting the voices of the under-represented, and investing in capacity building. The United Nations System likewise can nurture community-based initiatives that aim to enhance the participation of individuals in their own development. Furthermore, the United Nations System can help formulate targeted interventions and providing technical assistance in support of data collected and analysed that will inform the extent of the plight of the poor and vulnerable.

All five areas are interlinked and mutually affect one another, yet are being exacerbated by the wide disparities existing in the country with regard to ownership, access and participation and decision-making power. Maintaining broad-based and equitable economic growth at higher levels is an imperative for poverty reduction. Even so, no country has done well in reducing poverty without also providing widespread basic education, health and social protection services. Improving the environment and strengthening the national response to natural disasters will contribute to better health, education and social protection as well as lessen vulnerability. Good governance and participatory development will be the mechanisms through which an effective coalition of the state, civil society, the private sector, the donor community, the media and the United Nations System can deliver the citizens of the Philippines out of poverty. Finally, the root causes of conflict often involve issues of governance, poverty, inequality and environment, which also must be seen through the "lens" of peace-building.

Under its global mandate, the United Nations also has identified a series of fundamental crosscutting issues that will be highlighted and addressed in all five areas of cooperation, including respect for human rights, gender equality, access to information and services, population and development, and youth and adolescents. These have been considered in selecting programme priorities, establishing rights standards, identifying duty-bearers and claims-holders, and establishing mechanisms for redress.

It should be noted that lack of inclusion as a collaborative priority in the UNDAF in no way precludes other themes from receiving support from individual United Nations organisations. Overall, however, the goal is swift convergence in planning _- designing certain United Nations activities collaboratively and sharing these plans as an integrated whole.

2.3 Expected Outcomes

Arising from the CCA analysis, common United Nations development issues have

been determined by their impact on the poorest and most vulnerable, based on the following criteria: (a) if the issue is addressed, it will solve most, if not all, of the other issues; (b) successes and best practices have occurred in the past and will need to continue in addressing the issue; (c) the issue has reached an alarming situation and needs immediate attention; (d) it is critical to the achievement of the MDGs; and (e) there is potential for longer-term impact on national goals and priorities. In addition, these issues focus on the key areas of competence and comparative advantage of the United Nations System in the Philippines. Other key development challenges noted in the CCA either do not fall under these categories or are being addressed primarily through other members of the donor community.

Based on national priorities contained in the Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan 2001-2004, the United Nations has, in each area of cooperation, identified Country Programme Outcomes to be achieved during 2005-2009, Country Programme Outputs, the Role of Partners and Resource Mobilisation Targets. Details are described in the UNDAF Results Matrix.

2.3.1 Macroeconomic Stability, Broad-Based and Equitable Development

Sustainable economic growth that brings improvements in standards of living to all segments of the population is the continuing economic challenge confronting the Philippines. As noted above, some one-third of the country's population - nearly 26 million people - lives below the annual per-capita poverty threshold of PhP 11,605. The transient poor, who are vulnerable to economic, political, environmental and other "shocks," raise numbers even higher. The Gini ratio in 2000 was 0.48 - with no notable improvement over the past nine years at 0.47 in 1991.

Unemployment has steadily increased, reaching 10.2 percent during the third quarter of 2002, while underemployment is chronic and widespread at 15.3 percent during the same period. Furthermore, nearly half of the working population is engaged in informal-sector jobs that are easy to find but are low in both productivity and pay. In particular, the agricultural sector is undeveloped and with low productivity, having grown at an average of only 1 percent annually in the 1980s and 1.5 percent in the 1990s. Investor confidence is weak, at about 20 percent of GDP compared to a norm of 30-35 percent of other newly industrialised countries. The fiscal deficit is unsustainable at its high level of more than 37 percent of total revenue, or PhP210.7 billion (US\$4.1 billion, 2002).

While the level of economic growth is important, it is the pattern of growth, however that will determine its sustainability: The more equitable the growth, the more widely will the fruits of economic expansion be distributed, especially to the poor, and the greater the likelihood of social stability. Interventions of the United Nations System will focus on support to formulation of pro-poor policies and strengthening management and planning capacities for vulnerable groups.

In this priority area, the United Nations System anticipates the following outcome of its development assistance:

UNDAF Outcome 1: By 2009, increased incomes for both women and men among poverty groups in XX priority areas through enabling policies, public-private partnerships and assets reform measures that lead to expansion of sustainable livelihoods,

community enterprises and Decent Work, increased productivity and managed population growth

Country Programme outcomes adopted under this UNDAF Outcome include:

- By 2009, the policy and planning framework in the country more extensively incorporates effective, people-centered approaches to development planning, budgeting and monitoring, with a special focus on women, children and vulnerable groups

2.3.2 Basic Social Services

Attainment of the highest standard of health, nutrition, education and social protection services is a fundamental right of every human being. At the same time, the Philippines' decentralised system of governance _- despite many breakthroughs that have benefited the poor and vulnerable _- has also resulted in divisions of labor and financial responsibility that give rise to serious weaknesses in local Governments' ability to deliver adequate basic services to their constituencies.

Social services expenditures as a share of GDP fell from 5.46 percent in 1997 to 4.25 percent in 2003. In health, major gaps in women's health care and nutrition arise from women's poor health-seeking behavior; lack of empowerment, which results in widespread gender-based violence; and health service delivery that often does not comply with prescribed medical standards. Wide disparities also exist across regions in the nutritional status of children. At the same time, reported HIV infections among high-risk groups have been rising and now stand at more than 100 cases per year __ a comparatively low though alarming figure, considering that only 19 percent of 15- to 24-year-olds could correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV. Levels of tuberculosis, malaria and dengue are very high, requiring accelerated and coordinated interventions. In education, significant issues include wide disparities in retaining children in the secondary level, between urban and rural areas, rich and poor regions; low quality, arising from unwieldy class sizes and congested curriculum; and poor access to and quality of early childhood care and development services, with at least two-thirds of 3- to 5-year-olds not enrolled. Lastly, demand for safe drinking water needs to be increased, given that 36 percent of water for urban slum dwellers is contaminated at the point of consumption, while another 17 percent is contaminated at the source because of improper transport, handling and storage.

United Nations concerns under this area of cooperation are focused both on demand and delivery for health, education, and social protection/social security. For quality health care, the United Nations System will support maternal health, reproductive health and child health in particular, with strategic approaches directed toward adolescents and youth and toward increasing the involvement of parents, caregivers and families in monitoring the progress of children's growth and development. Improvements in quality of education will focus on building a strong foundation for integrated early childhood care, transforming schools into child-friendly institutions, developing alternative delivery schemes for particular groups, and reaching out to national priority areas.

In this priority area, the United Nations System anticipates the following outcome

of its development assistance:

UNDAF Outcome 2: By 2009, increased and more equitable access to and utilisation of quality, integrated and sustainable basic social services by the poor and vulnerable

Country Programme Outcomes adopted under this UNDAF Outcome include:

- By 2009, more Filipinos, especially children, adolescents and women, are aware of their rights, including reproductive rights, and are empowered to claim their rights to health and education
- By 2009, key policies, plans and programmes on comprehensive, quality, rights-based and culturally sensitive education, health, nutrition, food and social protection and security services for poor and vulnerable groups are designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated

2.3.3 Good Governance

Key national documents all point to the centrality of effective and equitable governance relative to other challenges. Through direct and indirect engagement with governance issues, other issues to be advanced include human security; gender equality; the rights of women and children; quality education and health services, including case detection and treatment, prevention of tuberculosis and malaria; social protection; HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support; and adequate standards of living and working conditions, including access to sufficient food, water, decent housing and income.

Implementing governance reform in the Philippines, however, has been hampered by many factors, including inadequate budgetary resources; conflicting interpretations or gaps in the implementing rules and regulations of new laws; consequent prolonged litigation to

UNDAF Outcome 3: By 2009, good governance reforms and practices are institutionalised by Government, local government units (LGUs), civil society organisations and the private sector in a manner that contributes substantively to poverty reduction, protection of rights, sustainable human development and promotion of gender equality

Country Programme Outcomes adopted under this UNDAF Outcome include the following:

- By 2009, public and private institutions adhere better to the rule of law, human rights and gender equality, toward greater access to justice and human security by poor and vulnerable groups
- By 2009, national, subnational and local institutions promote and practice

transparency, accountability, gender equity and participatory governance for greater accessibility and cost-effectiveness in the delivery of programmes and services toward improved human development, especially for poor and vulnerable groups

- By 2009, governance institutions pursue and institutionalize reforms in the political, electoral and legislative systems for greater citizens' participation, especially among poor and vulnerable groups, toward meaningful democratisation of governance at all levels

2.3.4 Environmental Sustainability

The Philippines continues to be highly vulnerable to environmental damage that threatens the nation as well as the planet, given that two-thirds of the poor remain dependent on natural resources for income and sustenance. In particular, Indigenous Peoples are mostly located in remote but resource-rich areas, many in protected and ecologically fragile sites.

The coastal and marine environment, on which millions of Filipinos depend, deserves special mention; island ecosystems are prone to human-induced disruptions. Some 98 percent of coral reefs in the country have been damaged by human-related activities. At the same time, water, air and soil pollution are increasing in many parts of the country, bringing serious consequences for health. Natural disasters also are confronted on a recurrent basis. The Philippines is located in an active part of the Earth characterised by an ocean-circling belt of active volcanoes and earthquake fault lines. Major disasters, such as typhoons,

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2.3.5 Conflict Prevention and Peace- Building

Highlighting the interconnectedness of what Secretary-General Kofi Annan has identified as "freedom from fear" and "freedom from want," human security examines the underlying political, economic and social factors that promote or hinder people's security in a comprehensive sense and addresses problems of socially excluded groups. As identified in the CCA, root causes of human insecurity in the Philippines, and thus, threats to overall peace and development, include conditions of inequity, with an elite few controlling power and economic resources; abject poverty; poor governance; injustice, abuse of authority and violations of human rights; and marginalisation of minority groups, especially Indigenous Peoples. A rights-based approach provides an overarching strategy to hold both states and people accountable for safeguarding human lives and providing a framework for making nonstate actors accountable. In addressing threats to human security, the rights-based approach of protection and empowerment provides a conceptual link between the domains of conflict and poverty.

Perhaps in no way do the poor suffer more than during a conflict situation, where their vulnerability, lack of opportunities and formal powerlessness come to the forefront. The primary challenge to peace, development and human security in the Philippines today is the armed conflict that has lasted for 35 years, mainly involving a communist insurgency and secessionist rebellion. The effects of armed conflict are most apparent in certain areas of Mindanao, especially in the provinces of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). Given that Mindanao is a primary resource base of the Philippine economy, the conflict most likely affects the nation's GDP. In particular, the plight of children and women in situations of armed conflict renders them vulnerable to physical abuse and exploitation. Children are estimated to comprise up to 13 percent of the total rebel population. Indigenous Peoples also are often violently displaced so that armed combatants can use their communities as "safe havens."

Development efforts must be used strategically, not just to prevent and settle conflicts, but also to consolidate peace when settlements have been reached. In so doing, ad

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Mindanao is a primary resource base of the Philippine economy, the conflict most likely affects the nation's GDP. In particular, the plight of children and women in situations of armed conflict renders them vulnerable to physical abuse and exploitation. Children are estimated to comprise up to 13 percent of the total rebel population. Indigenous Peoples also are often violently displaced so that armed combatants can use their communities as "safe havens."

Development efforts must be used strategically, not just to prevent and settle conflicts, but also to consolidate peace when settlements have been reached. In so doing, advice and participation in governance

It should be noted that the United Nations System already has joint programming operating under this area of cooperation. Since 2001, five United Nations Agencies (UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO, FAO, ILO), supported by four more Agencies (UNICEF, WHO, UNIDO, UNHCR), have engaged in a joint programme in conflict areas of the ARMM to strengthen lasting peace and development in the province and to assist former rebels in reintegrating into society. The United Nations System will continue to support future peace-building in Mindanao.

2.4 Cooperation Strategies

Clearly, the needs and expectations for sustainable human development in the Philippines and for achieving global goals, targets and principles call for multidimensional partnerships, with the Government, among United Nations Agencies, and with other development partners, including civil society. The United Nations will pursue complementary and collaborative strategies in the interest of furthering concerted efforts toward national priorities, particularly including a partnership strategy that involves joint dialogue and maintaining a high-quality environment for the state, civil society organisations and the private sector.

Through policy dialogue, the United Nations System will facilitate a comprehensive approach to aid coordination, linking such coordination to the evolution of the institutional, legal and administrative sectors. The United Nations System will exert efforts to strengthen capacities of institutions and organisations at all level, enabling them to better deal with major challenges arising from the urgent need to reduce wide disparities among the population. Lastly, through increased advocacy, the United Nations System will support policy makers on specific issues that it considers as priorities.

These strategies will be further refined during UNDAF implementation through the coordination mechanisms discussed in Section 5. Some may require collaborative programming or funding; others will be a matter of concerted facilitation of access to data and research. The Government and people of the Philippines must work together in delivering assistance effectively.

Section 4:

Implementation

The United Nations System, through the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and the Resident Coordinator, will be responsible for effective United Nations activities, especially in cases where resources are combined. UNDAF Technical Working Groups will meet regularly and will serve as the main mechanism for implementing and monitoring the UNDAF, under the oversight of the UNCT. The following strategies will be employed:

- Selection of lead Agencies for each focus area of collaboration, if such do not already exist.
- Development of individual Working Group workplans on collaborative activities with clear goals and objectives, to be integrated into the Annual Report and Workplan of the Resident Coordinator.

At the same time, it has long been recognised that a number of development challenges faced as a System require strong partnerships with the specialised United Nations Agencies, including nonresident organisations, some of whom do not include participation in the UNDAF in their mandate. The UNCT will develop a mechanism to engage the valuable knowledge and inputs of these specialised Agencies in order to further catalyze the full UNDAF implementation. Regional cooperation will also be supported and encouraged with Government, particularly in discussions on commitments to international treaties and United Nations instruments.

4.1 Focus on MDGs, Rights and Gender Equality

A human rights-based and gender-responsive approach _- bringing human rights and gender-responsive standards and values to the core of everything the United Nations does _- offers the best prospect of achieving the MDGs and institutionalising the values of the Millennium Declaration. Likewise, it can leverage the organisation's influence to empower the Filipino people to advance their own claims, to prevent discrimination and marginalisation, and to bridge the accountability deficits that have chronically hampered development progress. The principal framework for integration of human rights and gender responsiveness into the work of the United Nations System is represented by this UNDAF and the CCA.

Throughout implementation of the UNDAF, the United Nations System will focus on the most vulnerable groups in society, with explicit provisions for ensuring their active and meaningful participation in decision-making. Moreover, to contribute to the reduction of regional disparities that underlie much of the poverty in the Philippines, the United Nations System will target poor regions and specific impoverished groups. Effective links and relationships among the state, civil society, and private sector shall be a priority

consideration.

4.2 Harmonisation of Programme Cycles

UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF already have harmonised programme cycles that coincide with the UNDAF cycle of 2005-2009. The duration of cycles varies among other Agencies, however, with most working on a biennial basis.

Provisions of the UNDAF will be implemented through the country cooperation frameworks and programmes agreed to by partner organisations. Selection and definition of individual Agencies' goals, objectives and strategies will be fully consistent with the UNDAF. Individual Country Programmes and project documents will also specify how they contribute to UNDAF objectives and cooperation strategies.

4.3 Development Coordination Mechanisms

A number of coordination forums at different levels allow for enhanced cooperation between multilateral and bilateral funding agencies. The annual Consultative Group meetings, under the leadership of the Government and World Bank, provide the overall framework for coordination support. Within this larger context, donor working groups meet in a number of key areas, such as Mindanao. Aid coordination meetings are also held to discuss development assistance for specific issues and concerns, such as the health sector reform agenda, tuberculosis and malaria and HIV/AIDS. Such meetings offer opportunities for cooperation at the operational level and help avoid duplication of efforts. Within the United Nations System, there are also a number of working groups.

The United Nations System will continue to facilitate dialogue between the Government and the donor community on issues of common interest. It will encourage improved coordination among the development community through greater exchange of information and enhanced collaboration as an active participant in specific donor working groups.

In addition, the United Nations System will continue its collaborative efforts in the area of common premises and services. United Nations Agencies, through the Common Premises Working Group, are working collectively to arrange to shift the United Nations House to a new building and have undertaken a pilot programme for common provision of travel and courier services. The Security Management Team is extremely active and the Disaster Management Team increasingly so, both of which include World Bank and Asian Development Bank.

the contribution of these outputs to the achievement of the MDGs. Joint field assessments and monitoring will be promoted.

In addition to the Annual Report of the Resident Coordinator, the Millennium Development Goals Report for the Philippines will serve as an important means for reporting on and adjusting UNDAF activities. Overall, the UNCT, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, will be responsible for the review and validation of the cooperation between organisations on the UNDAF priority areas in order to ensure that individual Agencies' country programme documents reflect

such objectives as appropriate. It will also ensure the effective functioning of the Technical Working Groups. Regular UNCT meetings will establish an ongoing, high level of information exchange and strengthen partnerships, as well as improve coordination and collaboration of the United Nations System as a whole. Effective inter-Agency collaboration will be included in all Agency workplans and reviews.

5.2 Joint and External Reviews

A joint mid-term evaluation by the Government, United Nations System and other partners will be conducted at the midpoint of the UNDAF period (2005-2009), synchronised as much as possible with respective Agencies' mid-term country programme reviews. This will provide the opportunity for any mid-course adjustments to ensure that United Nations efforts remain focused on national priorities. During this review, it will be particularly important to re-examine the Programme Resources Framework.

Similarly, a joint end-of-cycle evaluation of the UNDAF will be undertaken, with the objective of obtaining substantive feedback on progress toward stated UNDAF outcomes in each priority area. It will focus on (1) the contribution of the Agencies toward achieving the outcome, specifically, how complementary and collaborative programming has enhanced the effectiveness of the United Nations System; and (2) how much associated outcomes together have, or have not, contributed to achieving the desired impact, particularly through the MDGs. Achievements, lessons learned and best practices will be disseminated, as will constraints encountered, to inform the design of the next UNDAF.

[A joint mid-term evaluation by the Government, the UN System and other partners will provide the opportunity for any mid-course adjustments to ensure that UN efforts remain focused on national priorities.](#)

Section 3:

Estimated Resource Requirements

The estimated financial resources required by the United Nations System for its contribution to the achievement of each expected UNDAF Outcome are presented in the Programme Resources Framework. These contributions include (1) the financial allocations by each participating United Nations organisation, or direct resources; and (2) resources that organisations expect to mobilise during the UNDAF cycle in addition to their direct resources. The table presents a breakdown of targets by organisation and area of concentration; the breakdown of the latter should be seen as indicative only.

The total anticipated resources to be mobilised in support of UNDAF strategies amount to USD107.755 million. About 23 percent of the total resources will be spent on the focus area of Macroeconomic Stability, Broad-Based and Equitable Development, 35 percent on Basic Social Services, 13 percent on Good Governance, 18 percent on Environmental Sustainability and 11 percent on Conflict Prevention and Peace-Building. This distribution reflects UNCT priorities and national development needs, as well as provides for aligning United Nations cooperation with overall development assistance.

It should be noted that resource commitments are made not through the UNDAF, but rather through in-country programmes or project documents, according to the procedures and approved mechanisms of each organisation. Given the differences in budgeting approaches of United Nations Agencies, the time frame of each programme varies as well.

The United Nations System, through the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and the Resident Coordinator, will be responsible for effective United Nations activities, especially in cases where resources are combined. UNDAF Technical Working Groups will meet regularly and will serve as the main mechanism for implementing and monitoring the UNDAF, under the oversight of the UNCT. The following strategies will be employed:

- Selection of lead Agencies for each focus area of collaboration, if such do not already exist.
- Development of individual Working Group workplans on collaborative activities with clear goals and objectives, to be integrated into the Annual Report and Workplan of the Resident Coordinator.

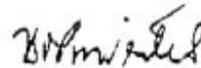
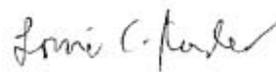
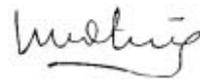
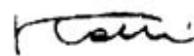
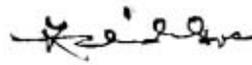
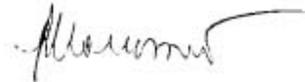
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