

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1315

AN ACT

To require a report on progress toward the Millennium
Development Goals, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “International Coopera-
5 tion to Meet the Millennium Development Goals Act of
6 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) At the United Nations Millennium Summit
4 in 2000, the United States joined more than 180
5 other countries in committing to work toward goals
6 to improve life for the world's poorest people by
7 2015.

8 (2) Such goals include reducing the proportion
9 of people living on less than \$1 per day by $\frac{1}{2}$, re-
10 ducing child mortality by $\frac{2}{3}$, and assuring basic
11 education for all children, while sustaining the envi-
12 ronment upon which human life depends.

13 (3) At the 2002 International Conference on
14 Financing for Development, the United States rep-
15 resentative reiterated the support of the United
16 States for the Millennium Development Goals and
17 advocated, along with other international partici-
18 pants, for a stronger focus on measurable outcomes
19 derived from a global partnership between developed
20 and developing countries.

21 (4) On March 22, 2002, President Bush stated,
22 “We fight against poverty because hope is an answer
23 to terror. We fight against poverty because oppor-
24 tunity is a fundamental right to human dignity. We
25 fight against poverty because faith requires it and
26 conscience demands it. We fight against poverty

1 with a growing conviction that major progress is
2 within our reach.”.

3 (5) The 2002 National Security Strategy of the
4 United States notes that “a world where some live
5 in comfort and plenty, while half of the human race
6 lives on less than \$2 per day, is neither just nor sta-
7 ble. Including all of the world’s poor in an expanding
8 circle of development and opportunity is a moral im-
9 perative and one of the top priorities of U.S. inter-
10 national policy”.

11 (6) The National Commission on Terrorist At-
12 tacks Upon the United States concluded that the
13 Government of the United States must offer an ex-
14 ample of moral leadership in the world and offer
15 parents and their children a vision of the future that
16 emphasizes individual educational and economic op-
17 portunity as essential to the efforts of the United
18 States to defeat global terrorism.

19 (7) The summit of the Group of Eight held
20 during July 2005, the United Nations summit held
21 during September 2005, and the Sixth Ministerial
22 Conference of the World Trade Organization sched-
23 uled to be held during December 2005 have provided
24 and will provide opportunities to measure and con-

1 tinue to pursue progress on the Millennium Develop-
2 ment Goals.

3 (8) The summit of the Group of Eight held
4 July 6 through July 8, 2005, in Gleneagles, Scot-
5 land, brought together the countries that can make
6 the greatest contribution to alleviating extreme pov-
7 erty in Africa, the region of the world where extreme
8 poverty is most prevalent.

9 (9) On June 11, 2005, the United States
10 helped secure the agreement of the Group of Eight
11 Finance Ministers to cancel 100 percent of the debt
12 obligations owed to the World Bank, African Devel-
13 opment Bank, and International Monetary Fund by
14 countries that are eligible for debt relief under the
15 Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the initia-
16 tive established in 1996 by the World Bank and the
17 International Monetary Fund for the purpose of re-
18 ducing the debt burdens of the world's poorest coun-
19 tries, or under the Enhanced HIPC Initiative, as de-
20 fined in section 1625 of the International Financial
21 Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262p-8), which are poor
22 countries that are on the path to reform.

23 (10) The report prepared by the Commission
24 for Africa and issued by Prime Minister Tony Blair
25 on March 11, 2005, entitled "Our Common Inter-

1 est”, called for coherence and coordination in the de-
2 velopment of an overarching package of actions to be
3 carried out by the countries of Africa and the inter-
4 national community to address the complex inter-
5 locking issues that challenge the continent, many of
6 which have already been addressed individually in
7 previous summits and under the Africa Action Plan
8 enacted by the Group of Eight.

9 (11) The United States has recognized the need
10 for strengthened economic and trade opportunities,
11 as well as increased financial and technical assist-
12 ance to Africa and other countries burdened by ex-
13 treme poverty, through significant initiatives in re-
14 cent years, including—

15 (A) the African Growth and Opportunity
16 Act (19 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.) that has opened
17 United States markets to thousands of products
18 from Africa;

19 (B) the President’s Emergency Plan for
20 AIDS Relief developed under section 101 of the
21 United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS,
22 Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003 (22
23 U.S.C. 7611), the major focus of which has
24 been on African countries;

(C) the Millennium Challenge Corporation established under section 604 of the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7703) that is in the process of committing new and significant levels of assistance to countries, including countries in Africa, that are poor but show great promise for boosting economic growth and bettering the lives of their people; and

(D) the cancellation by the United States of 100 percent of the bilateral debt owed to the United States by countries eligible for debt relief under the Enhanced HIPC Initiative.

(12) The report prepared by the Commission for Africa entitled “Our Common Interest” includes the following findings:

(A) The people of Africa must demonstrate the leadership necessary to address the governance challenges they face, setting priorities that ensure the development of effective civil and police services, independent judiciaries, and strong parliaments, all of which reinforce a stable and predictable economic environment attractive to investment.

(B) Many leaders in Africa have pursued personal self-interest rather than national goals,

1 a tendency that has been in some instances ex-
 2 acerbated and abetted by the manipulation of
 3 foreign governments pursuing their own agenda
 4 in the region to the detriment of the people of
 5 Africa.

6 (C) More violent conflict has occurred in
 7 Africa during the period between 1965 and
 8 2005 than occurred in any other continent dur-
 9 ing that period, and the countries of Africa
 10 must engage on the individual, national, and re-
 11 gional level to prevent and manage conflict.

12 (D) The capacity to trade is constrained by
 13 a derelict or nonexistent infrastructure in most
 14 African countries as well as by the double-edged
 15 sword of tariff and nontariff barriers to trade
 16 that complicate markets and discourage invest-
 17 ment both within and beyond the continent.

18 (E) The local resources for investment in
 19 people and the institutions necessary for good
 20 governance have been squandered, misappro-
 21 priated, and, to an increasingly devastating ef-
 22 fect, spent on servicing debt to the developed
 23 world. Such resources should be reoriented to
 24 serve the needs of the people through the use

1 of debt forgiveness and support for institutional
2 reform and internal capacity building.

3 (F) Failing to prevent conflict in Africa re-
4 sults in incalculable costs to African develop-
5 ment and expense to the international commu-
6 nity and the investment in preventing conflict is
7 a fraction of such costs and expenses, in
8 human, security, and financial terms.

9 (G) Despite difficulties, there is optimism
10 and energy reflected in the scope of activities of
11 individuals such as 2004 Nobel Peace Prize re-
12 cipient, Wangari Maathai, as well as those of
13 improved regional organizations such as the Af-
14 rican Union and the New Partnership for Eco-
15 nomic Development's Peer Review Mechanism,
16 and subregional entities such as the Economic
17 Community of West African States, the Inter-
18 Governmental Authority on Development, and
19 the potential of the Southern African Develop-
20 ment Community.

21 (H) Political reform in Africa has pro-
22 duced results. For example, while in 1985 coun-
23 tries of sub-Saharan Africa ruled by dictators
24 were the norm, by 2005 dictatorships are a mi-
25 nority and democracy has new life with govern-

1 ments chosen by the people increasing fourfold
2 since 1991.

3 (13) The report prepared by the Commission
4 for Africa entitled “Our Common Interest” includes
5 the following recommendations:

6 (A) At this vital moment when
7 globalization and growth, technology and trade,
8 and mutual security concerns allow, and com-
9 mon humanity demands, a substantial tangible
10 and coherent package of actions should imme-
11 diately be taken by the international commu-
12 nity, led by the most industrialized countries, in
13 partnership with the countries of Africa, to ad-
14 dress the poverty and underdevelopment of the
15 African continent.

16 (B) The people of Africa must take respon-
17 sibility and show courageous leadership in ad-
18 dressing problems and taking ownership of solu-
19 tions as the means for ensuring sustainable de-
20 velopment, while implementing governance re-
21 form as an underlying prerequisite for foreign
22 assistance effectiveness.

23 (C) Each developed country has unique
24 strengths and capacity to add value to a com-
25 prehensive assistance plan and should join their

1 individual efforts to a coherent whole that is
2 more efficient and responsive to Africa and the
3 people of Africa.

4 (D) The international community must
5 honor existing commitments to strengthen Afri-
6 can peacekeeping capacity and go beyond those
7 commitments to invest in more effective preven-
8 tion and nonmilitary means to resolve conflict
9 through such regional organizations as the Afri-
10 can Union and the subregional Economic Com-
11 munity for West African States.

12 (E) A massive investment in physical in-
13 frastructure should be made to support com-
14 merce, extend governance, and provide opportu-
15 nities for education, healthcare, investment and
16 growth.

17 (F) Donors and the governments of the
18 countries of Africa should devote substantial in-
19 vestment in the men and women of Africa
20 through the education and health sectors, ena-
21 bling and extending recent gains made to reach
22 far more broadly into remote regions.

23 (G) The public sector should actively en-
24 gage the private sector in driving growth
25 through partnerships by reforming the laws, bu-

1 reaucracy, and infrastructure necessary to
 2 maintain a climate that fosters investment by
 3 developing public-private centers of excellence to
 4 pursue such reforms.

5 (H) The countries of Africa must maxi-
 6 mize the participation of women in both busi-
 7 ness and government, protect the rights of
 8 women, and work to increase the number of
 9 women in leadership positions so as to cap-
 10 italize on the ability of women to deliver scarce
 11 resources effectively and fairly.

12 (I) The international community must
 13 work together to dismantle trade barriers, in-
 14 cluding the immediate elimination of trade-dis-
 15 torting commodity support.

16 (J) International donors should strengthen
 17 multilateral institutions in Africa to respond
 18 appropriately to local and regional crises as well
 19 as to promote economic development and ensure
 20 the people of Africa are granted a stronger
 21 voice in international forums.

22 (K) The international community must
 23 join in providing creative incentives for commer-
 24 cial firms to research and develop products that
 25 improve water, sanitation, health, and the envi-

1 ronment in ways that would dramatically reduce
2 suffering and increase productive life-spans in
3 Africa.

4 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
7 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
8 mittees” means the Committee on Foreign Relations
9 of the Senate and the Committee on International
10 Relations of the House of Representatives.

11 (2) GROUP OF EIGHT.—The term “Group of
12 Eight” means the forum for addressing international
13 economic, political, and social issues attended by
14 representatives of Canada, France, Germany, Italy,
15 Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United
16 States.

17 (3) MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS.—The
18 term “Millennium Development Goals” means the
19 goals set out in United Nations Millennium Declara-
20 tion, resolution 55/2 adopted by the General Assem-
21 bly of the United Nations on September 8, 2000.

22 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

23 It is the sense of Congress that—

24 (1) the President should continue to provide the
25 leadership shown at the summit of the Group of

1 Eight held in July 2005 at Gleneagles, Scotland, to
2 continue to encourage other countries to develop a
3 true partnership to pursue the Millennium Develop-
4 ment Goals;

5 (2) the President should urge the Group of
6 Eight to consider the findings and recommendations
7 contained in the report prepared by the Commission
8 for Africa entitled “Our Common Interest”, in part-
9 nership with the nations of Africa, for the develop-
10 ment of Africa;

11 (3) the Group of Eight, as well as governments
12 of the countries of Africa and regional organizations
13 of such governments, should reaffirm and honor the
14 commitments made in the Africa Action Plan en-
15 acted by the Group of Eight in previous years; and

16 (4) the international community should con-
17 tinue to build upon the progress made at the summit
18 of the Group of Eight in July 2005 and the United
19 Nations summit in September 2005 toward achiev-
20 ing the Millennium Development Goals, and should
21 further enable such progress at the Sixth Ministerial
22 conference of the World Trade Organization sched-
23 uled for December 2005.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

2 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the
3 date of the conclusion of the Sixth Ministerial Conference
4 of the World Trade Organization that is scheduled to be
5 held in Hong Kong from December 13 through December
6 18, 2005, the Secretary of State in consultation with other
7 appropriate United States and international agencies shall
8 submit a report to the appropriate congressional commit-
9 tees on the progress the international community is mak-
10 ing toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

11 (b) CONTENT.—The report required by subsection
12 (a) shall include the following:

13 (1) A review of the commitments made by the
14 United States and other members of the inter-
15 national community at the summit of the Group of
16 Eight in July 2005, the United Nations summit in
17 September 2005, and the Sixth Ministerial Con-
18 ference of the World Trade Organization scheduled
19 for December 2005, that pertain to the ability of the
20 developing world to achieve the Millennium Develop-
21 ment Goals.

22 (2) A review of United States policies and
23 progress toward achieving the Millennium Develop-
24 ment Goals by 2015, as well as policies to provide
25 continued leadership in achieving such goals by
26 2015.

1 (3) An evaluation, to the extent possible, of the
2 contributions of other national and international ac-
3 tors in achieving the Millennium Development Goals
4 by 2015.

5 (4) An assessment of the likelihood that the
6 Millennium Development Goals will be achieved.

 Passed the Senate December 22 (legislative day, De-
cember 21), 2005.

Attest:

Secretary.

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