

G8 Member States and the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit Priorities

An overview of the policies and initiatives of each G8 member state in the areas of Energy Security, Global Health and Education



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CIVIL SOCIETY AND EXPANDED DIALOGUE UNIT**

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Preface

The G8 Research Group (G8RG) is an independent organization based at the University of Toronto. Founded in 1987, it is an international network of scholars, professionals and students interested in the activities of the Group of Eight (G8). To date it is the largest source of independent research and analysis on the G8, its member states, and related institutions in the world. The G8RG also oversees the G8 Information Centre, which publishes, free of charge, academic analyses and reports on the G8 and makes available, official documents issued by the G8. Virtually all G8 documents referred to in this report are available on the G8RG website (www.g8.utoronto.ca) without cost.

This report was compiled by the Civil Society and Expanded Dialogue (CS-ED) Unit of the G8 Research Group under the leadership of Janet Chow and Adrian Morson. The CS-ED Unit conducts research and analysis on the G8's ongoing relationship with major external stakeholders, including emerging economies and civil society. The group also publishes thematic reports on the G8's past and present involvement in issues that will be discussed at the upcoming summit. In addition to this report, the CS-ED has worked throughout the 2005/2006 academic year to produce: *Russia and the G8: An overview of Russia's integration into the G8*; *From Gleneagles to St. Petersburg: The Continued Involvement of the G5*; and *Assessing the Relationship between Civil Society and the G8 – Russia and Civil Society and Post-Gleneagles Civil Society Action on Climate Change*. All of these documents are available free of charge on the G8RG website as of July 2006.

The G8 Research Group also hosts the G8RG Analysis Unit, which releases two reports per year detailing the G8's compliance with commitments made across a number of issue areas in the interim year between summits. These parallel reports contain further analysis on issues pertaining to the priorities determined by the Russian Presidency as well as other issue areas of G8 activity defined more broadly. The G8RG Analysis Unit also releases a pre-summit report detailing prospects for the upcoming leaders' meeting according to country and issue area. These are available under "Analytical and Compliance Studies" on the G8RG website.

The G8 Research Group and CS-ED Unit welcome responses to this report. Any comments or questions should be directed to g8@utoronto.ca. Responsibility for the report's contents lies exclusively with the authors.

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The Group of Eight

The Group of Eight (G8) is comprised of the eight leading industrialized democracies in the world: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Together, these eight states account for 48% of the global economy and 49% of global trade, hold four of the United Nations' five Permanent Security Council seats, and boast majority shareholder control over the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. The G6 (Canada and Russia excluded) originally met in Rambouillet, France in 1975 to discuss the economic impact of the OPEC oil crisis and the end of the US-dollar gold standard regime. In 1976, they were joined by Canada, with Russia gaining membership in 1998.

Each year, the leaders of these states meet at an annual summit in what is the most powerful and intimate meeting of global leaders anywhere in the world. Unlike other multilateral meetings, leaders at the G8 Summit meet privately behind closed-doors; there are no aides or intermediaries and there are few scripts or protocols. For some, the G8 is a concert of powers operating the most relevant centre for global governance, with its flexibility and dynamism making it far more effective than the post-1945 institutions, namely the United Nations (UN). For others, the G8 is an unelected 'committee that runs the world,' an epicenter of global capitalism and neo-colonialism. In the past, the G8 has discussed and made joint commitments on a variety of issue areas that relate to the international economy, nuclear counterproliferation and disarmament, peacekeeping, terrorism, energy, global health, education, climate change, and regional security.

While there are disagreements over its intentions, few deny the reach and scope of the G8's influence and control. While originally conceived as an economic gathering, the G8 Summit has now become a major arena for international action on HIV/AIDS, weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), terrorism and global trade. Past G8 Summits have produced such landmark agreements as the 1995 reform of the World Bank and IMF, the 1999 Enhanced HIPC Initiative for debt relief, and the 2001 Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis.

Since the 2001 Summit in Genoa, however, alternative-globalization advocates have made the G8 Summit a central focus in their debates over the economic and environmental responsibilities of the North to the South. Their concerns have also raised bold new questions concerning issues of accountability and transparency in globalization and have succeeded in shifting the G8's attention towards global poverty, fighting infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, and the Millennium Development Goals. The agenda for the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, dominated by the priority subjects of International Energy Security, Global Health (i.e. infectious diseases), and Education are indicative of the institution's widened scope and its recognition of the issues that challenge the world today.

Unlike many of the traditional multilateral organizations, such as the United Nations or the North American Treaty Organization (NATO), there is no permanent secretariat, staff or headquarters for the G8. Instead, the Group is maintained through the cooperation and coordination of national bureaucrats primarily in the foreign affairs and finance ministries of member-states. The Presidency of the G8 rotates on an annual basis. This year the Russian Federation holds the G8 Presidency for the first time, followed by Germany in 2007 and Japan in 2008.

Executive Summary

At the 2005 G8 Summit in Gleneagles, Scotland, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced that Energy Security, Education and Health, specifically Infectious Diseases, would be the main priority issues for the Russian Presidency. These three issues are certainly not new to the G8. Indeed, energy and related topics have been central to G8 deliberations since the institution's inception. The health priority appeared on the G8 agenda in the late 1980s and education garnered considerable G8 attention from the late 1990s onward.

The issue of energy security and governance will likely dominate discussions at the St. Petersburg Summit, as Russia has become a global leader in both energy reserves and exports. Critical to this issue is the incorporation of new technologies into the extraction, transport and use of traditional and renewable energy resources. The first section of this report will examine the current status of each of the energy security policies of G8 member countries and their involvement in related areas including the provision of nuclear power and renewable energies, the protection of nuclear materials, and the reduction of CO₂ emissions. The energy policies vary among the G8 countries, with the Russian Government on the one hand, advocating the use of nuclear power, and Germany on the other, supporting the elimination of nuclear power supplies because of the associated safety and environmental risks.

In addition to the issue of energy security, the Russian Presidency has identified the need to create a common, global approach to combat infectious diseases and improve health generally. Basic health care and prevention and treatment programs are still widely inaccessible, and alarming numbers of people continue to suffer from AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis, and other diseases. Moreover, in both the developing and developed world, Avian Influenza has emerged as an indiscriminate threat that sees no distinction between the rich and poor. While the G8 has made numerous commitments to address these ever-present threats, global efforts to ameliorate the threat of infectious diseases and improve accessibility to essential medicines, health education and treatment facilities continue to fall short. The second section of this report will provide an overview of the global health and related policies of the G8 member states and offer an assessment of their current and proposed policy directions.

The third and final section of this report examines the international education policies and programs of the G8 member states including their initiatives under the Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, the Education for All and Fast Track Initiatives, the G8 Africa Action Plan and others. Information is also provided on national education policies and their relevance to the possible coordination of a cooperative international strategy for education. Although some G8 countries continue to fall short in their commitment to ensuring Education for All in the developing world, and others can do more in promoting higher, vocational and lifelong learning, the G8 countries have articulated their commitment to education and skill development for the purposes of human and economic development in both the developing and developed world.

The G8 agenda for the St. Petersburg Summit will also accommodate discussions on other issues such as demographic growth and its accompanying problems, poverty reduction, terrorism, and non-proliferation. Undoubtedly, these issues are intimately interconnected with the three focal areas of Energy Security, Education and Health.

In its inaugural year as Chair of the G8, Russia has created an agenda that encourages progress on important issues that have already garnered considerable attention from G8 countries. In assessing the individual efforts of G8 member states in all priority areas, it becomes clear that all have excelled in some respects while falling short in others. While the Russian Presidency has articulated several new and ambitious goals in each these three issues, it remains to be seen how G8 countries will respond to these challenges at the St. Petersburg Summit and beyond.

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The G8 and Energy Security: Introduction

Energy security and related issues have been central to G8 deliberations since the institution's inception.¹ Since the 2000 Okinawa Summit, this commitment has been expressed as a concern for rising oil prices. At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the G8 recognized that "secure, reliable and affordable energy resources are fundamental to economic stability and development". The G8's statement at Gleneagles on the Global Economy and Oil stated that, given increasing demand for oil, "significant investments will be needed...in exploration, production, and energy infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing global economy."²

The topic of energy security is of critical importance for the Russian G8 Presidency. Recently, an expert with the Agency of Humanitarian Technologies estimated that Russia is home to 45% of the world's gas reserves, 13% of oil, 23% of coal and 14% of uranium.³ He also noted that 40% of the increase in global oil output is attributable to expanded Russian production, giving the country an important role in global markets.⁴ The tremendous growth in the Russian share of this market, coupled with the volatility of current oil prices and the continuing significance of energy to the G8 has made Energy Security a primary item on the agenda for the upcoming St. Petersburg Summit.

The G8's firm belief in the allocation of energy resources through market forces can be seen in numerous G8 statements related to energy security. One of the clearest expressions came in the final communiqué from the 1998 Birmingham Summit which stated that an efficient energy market is crucial to ensuring sustainable development and global growth. The G8 leaders committed themselves to encourage the development of energy markets and asserted that efforts to liberalize and restructure markets in order to ensure that a competitive environment could be supported.⁵ This commitment was reiterated in the 2005 statement on the Global Economy and Oil from the Gleneagles Summit, which emphasized that "oil-producing countries should ensure open markets with transparent business practices and stable regulatory frameworks for investment in the oil sector".⁶ Russia's position on energy security is, however, somewhat at odds with those of its fellow G8 members. The Russian Government distrusts the free market approach espoused by the Europeans and Americans to meet energy needs, and its leaders argue for the management of the energy market.⁷ Russia prefers to conduct its own energy relations with the West rather than leaving the price of oil to whims of the global market.

The April 1996 Moscow Nuclear Safety and Security Summit Declaration demonstrated the G8's concern for issues of nuclear safety and security. It committed the G8 countries to work together to ensure "the safety of nuclear power and to promote greater security for nuclear materials."⁸ After 11 September 2001, the G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, formed at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit and supplemented by the G8 Action Plan on Non-Proliferation from the 2004 Sea Island Summit, committed the G8 to work towards preventing the illicit diversion of nuclear materials and technology.⁹ Nuclear energy and its role in the energy market of the future looks to be an important issue at the Summit. Nowhere is the debate over its continued use more clearly demonstrated than in Germany, where disagreement has been voiced at the highest levels of government.

¹ Global Energy Security, Official Website of the Russian G8 Presidency (Moscow) 2006. Date of Access: 24 May 2006. http://en.g8russia.ru/i/eng_nrgsafety.doc

² Global Economy and Oil, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 24 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/globaleconomy.pdf>

³ President Putin advocates energy dialog with all world powers, RIA Novosti (Moscow) 14 March 2006.

⁴ President Putin advocates energy dialog with all world powers, RIA Novosti (Moscow) 14 March 2006.

⁵ Communiqué, G8 Birmingham 1998 (Birmingham) 17 May 1998. Date of Access: 25 May 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1998birmingham/finalcom.htm>

⁶ Global Economy and Oil, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 24 May 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/globaleconomy.pdf>

⁷ Russia Gets No Consensus on Path to Energy Security, *Reuters*, 13 March 2006.

⁸ Moscow Nuclear Safety and Security Summit Declaration, Nuclear Safety and Security Summit 1996 (Moscow) 20 April 1996. Date of Access: 24 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1996moscow/declaration.html>

⁹ G8 Action Plan on Nonproliferation, G8 Sea Island 2004 (Sea Island) 2 June 2004. Date of Access: 24 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/nonproliferation.html>

Over the course of the most recent G8 summits, members have consistently voiced the need to diversify the world's energy supply mix by increasing the share of renewable energy as a proportion of global energy consumption. In this, the G8 has issued two eminently relevant documents concerning renewable energy and sustainable development. The 2003 Evian Summit produced a statement entitled "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: A G8 Action Plan", where the G8 countries committed to focusing their efforts on "cleaner, sustainable and more efficient energy use."¹⁰ The "Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development", issued at the 2005 Summit, emphasized the need to diversify the world's energy supply mix¹¹ in the context of the G8's recognition that diversification might assist in achieving other G8 goals such as reduced GHG emissions, the alleviation of poverty, and the improvement of the security of energy supplies.¹² These documents form the backbone of the G8's current commitments to renewable, sustainable energy as an element of ensuring energy security.

By: Adrian Morson and John Howell

¹⁰ Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: A G8 Action Plan, G8 Evian 2003 (Evian-les-Bains) 2 June 2003. Date of Access: 27 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable_development_en.html

¹¹ Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 27 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/climatechangeplan.pdf>

¹² Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 27 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/climatechangeplan.pdf>

Canada

As one of the world's largest energy producers and per capita consumers,¹³ Canada has a vested interest in the pursuit of global energy security. The security of Canada's energy supply, Canada's dual importance in world energy markets and discussions over climate change, and the economic importance of the energy sector to Canada can be illustrated with the help of a few basic statistics.

In 2003, Canada produced 18.4 quadrillion British Thermal Units (Btu) of total energy, the fifth-largest amount in the world.¹⁴ As of 2004, Canada ranked as the world's 13th largest producer of oil while producing 2.4 million barrels per day (bbl/day).¹⁵ As of January 2006, Canada's proven oil reserves of almost 178.8 billion barrels, more than 95% of which are oil sands deposits, ranked second only to those of Saudi Arabia.¹⁶ Thus, "most forecasts of world oil markets estimate that Canadian oil sands will become an increasingly important component of world oil supply."¹⁷

Canada ranks as the world's largest producer of hydroelectricity, the third largest producer of natural gas, and the world's largest producer of uranium.¹⁸ Canada's per capita energy consumption is almost double the OECD average. Canada ranked 28th out of the 30 OECD members measured, consuming 6.07 tonnes of oil equivalent (toe) per capita compared to the OECD average of 3.36 toe. Canada ranked 29th out of 30 OECD countries in terms of energy intensity. Here, Canada used 0.22 toe per every US\$1 000 GDP generated, significantly higher than the OECD average of 0.1 toe/US\$1 000 GDP.¹⁹

Canada is also one of the world's largest greenhouse gas (GHG) emitters per capita. Canada's 2002 production of 23.3 tonnes of GHGs per capita was almost twice the OECD average of 13 tonnes. That same year, Canada ranked 26th in the OECD in greenhouse gas emissions per capita;²⁰ the country's energy sector contributed 6.2% to its GDP and \$49.7 billion in exports.²¹ In recent years, revenues to Canada's national and sub-national governments from royalties and taxes derived from the exploitation of Canada's energy resources have ranged from CAD\$10 to 14 billion.²²

Canada's Energy Security Commitments through the G8

In the context of these realities, Canadian commitments toward energy security in the G8 assume an added significance. Canada's commitments include the reliable and effective provision of energy resources, especially oil, to the global economy; a secure, efficient, and competitive world energy market; the safe use of nuclear energy and adherence to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty; and a diversification of energy supplies through initiatives to foster alternative energy sources.

¹³ Energy Policies of IEA Countries – Canada – 2004 Review, International Energy Agency. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2004/canada.pdf>

¹⁴ Country Analysis Brief – Canada, Energy Information Administration, United States Department of Energy (Washington) April 2006. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Canada/pdf.pdf>

¹⁵ The World Factbook, Central Intelligence Agency, 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/rankorder/2173rank.html>

¹⁶ Country Analysis Brief – Canada, Energy Information Administration, United States Department of Energy (Washington) April 2006. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Canada/pdf.pdf>

¹⁷ Country Analysis Brief – Canada, Energy Information Administration, United States Department of Energy (Washington) April 2006. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Canada/pdf.pdf>

¹⁸ Sustainable Development Strategy – Moving Forward (Introduction), Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 2004. Date of Access: 28 May 2006. http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/sd-dd/pubs/strat2004/english/int_e.html

¹⁹ The Maple Leaf in the OECD: Comparing Progress Toward Sustainability, David Suzuki Foundation (Vancouver) 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/files/WOL/OECD-English2-FINAL.pdf>

²⁰ The Maple Leaf in the OECD: Comparing Progress Toward Sustainability, David Suzuki Foundation (Vancouver) 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/files/WOL/OECD-English2-FINAL.pdf>

²¹ Canada's Energy Policy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa). Date of Access: 28 May 2006. http://www2.nrcan.gc.ca/es/es/policy_e.cfm

²² Canada's Energy Policy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa). Date of Access: 28 May 2006. http://www2.nrcan.gc.ca/es/es/policy_e.cfm

Canada's Energy Policy

Canadian federal energy policies generally strive to balance three conflicting priorities: *security* - ensuring that Canadians have access to reliable, affordable and secure sources of energy; *prosperity* - creating a policy context that will allow energy industries to contribute to the prosperity and quality of life of all Canadians; and *environment* - reconciling Canada's appetite for energy with Canadian environmental objectives.²³ Successive Canadian federal governments have prioritized one or two of these priorities over the other according to policy orientation and the state of two primary dynamics. The first is Canada's relationship with the United States. The federal government's relations with the US have become extremely significant in the formulation of energy policy. This is due in part to the continuous integration of Canadian and American oil, natural gas, and electricity markets. The second dynamic affecting energy policy lies with the state of federal-provincial relations. Because the Canadian constitution assigns ownership of natural resources and energy to the provinces, the provinces retain significant influence in the formulation of Canadian energy policies. As a result, Canada's energy policies are frequently founded on a delicate national consensus between the federal government and the ten provinces.²⁴ Since the mid-1980s, the interplay of these forces has produced a set of Canadian energy policies that has prioritised prosperity.²⁵ As a result, Canada's energy policy has largely been based on the principle of allowing market forces to allocate energy supplies.²⁶

Canada's Energy Security Initiatives

Canadian initiatives in pursuit of energy security, within and outside the commitments established by the G8, can be grouped into three general categories: Canada's commitment to open, competitive energy markets; Canada's commitments to nuclear safety and security; and Canada's policies with regard to alternative energy sources, energy conservation, and climate change.

Canada and Open, Competitive Energy Markets

Canada's resolve in promoting open and competitive energy markets as a means of pursuing energy security has been most evident in the integration of energy markets that it has fostered in North America. The framework provided by the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has facilitated²⁷ the increasing integration of Canada's oil, natural gas, and electricity markets with those of the United States. The evidence of this open integration, and the level of competition that it fosters, can be seen in the level of trade in energy resources conducted between Canada and the United States and in the development of continental institutions to facilitate open competition through trade.

The degree to which Canadian energy markets are integrated with those of the US is illustrated by the fact that almost 70% of Canada's energy exports go to the United States.²⁸ 99% of Canada's crude oil exports go to the US, making Canada the largest source of US crude oil imports.²⁹ In 2004, net imports of petroleum products from Canada accounted for 9.6% of US petroleum consumption.³⁰ In 2004,

²³ Canada's Energy Policy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa). Date of Access: 28 May 2006.

http://www2.nrcan.gc.ca/es/es/policy_e.cfm

²⁴ Energy Policies of IEA Countries – Canada – 2004 Review, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2004. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2004/canada.pdf>

²⁵ Canada's Energy Policy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa). Date of Access: 28 May 2006.

http://www2.nrcan.gc.ca/es/es/policy_e.cfm

²⁶ Energy Policies of IEA Countries – Canada – 2004 Review, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2004. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2004/canada.pdf>

²⁷ North America – The Energy Picture II, North American Energy Working Group of the Security and Prosperity Partnership – Energy Picture Experts Group, January 2006. Date of Access: 29 May 2006.

<http://www.pi.energy.gov/pdf/library/NorthAmericaEnergyPictureII.pdf>

²⁸ If our NAFTA partners can have national energy programs, why can't we?, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 17 February 2005. Date of Access: 29 May 2006. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20050217.webcolaxer16/BNStory/National/>

²⁹ Country Analysis Brief – Canada, Energy Information Administration, United States Department of Energy (Washington) April 2006. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Canada/pdf.pdf>

³⁰ North America – The Energy Picture II, North American Energy Working Group of the Security and Prosperity Partnership, Energy Picture Experts Group, January 2006. Date of Access: 29 May 2006. <http://www.pi.energy.gov/pdf/library/NorthAmericaEnergyPictureII.pdf>

Canada provided 94.2% of US net imports of natural gas, accounting for 14.3% of US natural gas consumption that year;³¹ total net energy imports from Canada accounted for 7% of total US energy consumption.³² Acknowledging the important role Canada plays in the American energy supply, the US Energy Information Administration reports that “Canada and the US have an extensive electricity trade, and the electricity networks of the two countries are heavily integrated”. A striking example of this was the 2003 blackout that struck the Canadian province of Ontario and much of the Northeastern United States.³³ Additionally, the degree to which Canada’s energy markets are integrated with those of the United States is demonstrated by the continental institutions that have been created in order to govern or direct the energy markets of North America. Of these, the North American Energy Working Group (NAEWG) and the North American Electricity Reliability Council (NERC) have taken center stage.

The NAEWG was created by the leaders of Canada, the US and Mexico in March 2001 and saw its mandate expanded under the Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP) of March 2005. The NAEWG’s goals under the SPP are to “strengthen North America’s energy markets by working together... to increase reliable energy supplies for the region’s needs and development... and to streamline and update regulations by promoting energy efficiency, conservation, and technologies like clean coal.”³⁴ Canada, the US, and Mexico continue to “pursue coherent market integration and development” through the NAEWG.³⁵ The NERC has been working toward developing a single set of electricity reliability standards for all of North America.

Canada’s commitment toward pursuing open, competitive, and efficient energy markets within North America has not come without controversy. The Canadian government does not consider energy security to be “an issue of immediate significance.”³⁶ However, critics within the Canadian media and various think-tanks, such as Gordon Laxer, have questioned the wisdom of Canadian energy policies that facilitate the export of 70% of Canada’s oil production to the United States. This is of particular concern, according to Laxer, when one considers that NAFTA’s so-called “Proportionality Clause”, Article 605, mandates that no country may reduce the proportion of energy or oil that it exports to the other party. Thus, Laxer argues that Canada, during a time of oil shortages, can only reduce oil exports to the US if it reduces supplies available to Canadians.³⁷ Given the inherent instability associated with many of the world’s oil producing regions, many have argued that this restriction poses a serious threat to Canada’s energy security. Despite such criticisms, the new Canadian government has vowed to “continue to reduce barriers to the movement of energy products across provincial and other borders” in the belief that “strengthening energy market integration will ensure greater reliability of energy supplies.”³⁸

Canada and Nuclear Safety and Security

Governmental policies with regard to nuclear safety and security operate both domestically and internationally. The development and implementation of these policies is the responsibility of several agencies and crown corporations of the government of Canada, including Natural Resources Canada

³¹ North America – The Energy Picture II, North American Energy Working Group of the Security and Prosperity Partnership, Energy Picture Experts Group, January 2006. Date of Access: 29 May 2006.

<http://www.pi.energy.gov/pdf/library/NorthAmericaEnergyPictureII.pdf>

³² North America – The Energy Picture II, North American Energy Working Group of the Security and Prosperity Partnership, Energy Picture Experts Group, January 2006. Date of Access: 29 May 2006.

<http://www.pi.energy.gov/pdf/library/NorthAmericaEnergyPictureII.pdf>

³³ Country Analysis Brief – Canada, Energy Information Administration, United States Department of Energy (Washington) April 2006. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Canada/pdf.pdf>

³⁴ North America – The Energy Picture II, North American Energy Working Group of the Security and Prosperity Partnership, Energy Picture Experts Group, January 2006. Date of Access: 29 May 2006.

<http://www.pi.energy.gov/pdf/library/NorthAmericaEnergyPictureII.pdf>

³⁵ North America – The Energy Picture II, North American Energy Working Group of the Security and Prosperity Partnership, Energy Picture Experts Group, January 2006. Date of Access: 29 May 2006.

<http://www.pi.energy.gov/pdf/library/NorthAmericaEnergyPictureII.pdf>

³⁶ Energy Policies of IEA Countries – Canada – 2004 Review, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2004. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2004/canada.pdf>

³⁷ If our NAFTA partners can have national energy programs, why can’t we?, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 17 February 2005. Date of Access: 29 May 2006. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20050217.webcolaxer16/BNStory/National/>

³⁸ 2005 Policy Declaration, Conservative Party of Canada, 19 March 2005. Date of Access: 1 June 2006.

<http://www.conservative.ca/media/20050319-POLICY%20DECLARATION.pdf>

(NRCan), the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC), Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) and Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC), among others.

Domestically, the CNSC is responsible for regulating Canada's nuclear industry "to ensure that the development and use of nuclear energy do not pose any unreasonable risk to health, safety, security, and the environment"³⁹ and "to respect Canada's international commitments on the peaceful use of nuclear energy."⁴⁰ Internationally, Canadian commitments to the peaceful use of nuclear energy centre on the country's adherence to the principles around in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). Canada's nuclear non-proliferation policy has two overriding objectives: nuclear disarmament, specifically the elimination of all nuclear weapons; and efforts to ensure peaceful, non-explosive uses of nuclear energy.⁴¹

Domestically, the federal government's initiatives to ensure nuclear safety and security include measures to increase security at Canada's nuclear facilities⁴² as well as participation in the development of the next generation of nuclear power systems. Canada's initiatives at research and development in nuclear power include Canada's participation in the Generation IV International Forum (GIF) which is a consortium of 11 states coordinating research toward advanced nuclear energy systems for meeting future energy needs.⁴³ At the same time, AECL continues to conduct research in order to improve and develop new models of its CANDU product line of nuclear reactors.⁴⁴ The government of Canada's initiatives in support of research and development in nuclear power are consistent with its policy view that nuclear energy remains an important component of Canada's energy supply⁴⁵ and, therefore, in ensuring Canada's energy security.

At the international level, Canada's efforts at fostering nuclear safety and security abroad have taken several forms. The CNSC ensures compliance with Canada's non-proliferation policy and the NPT by imposing strict controls on the import and export of nuclear materials, equipment and technology into and out of Canada.⁴⁶ At the same time, Canada actively participates in a number of multilateral non-proliferation initiatives such as the G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction. Under Canada's Global Partnership Program, the government of Canada has already contributed a total of \$87 million over the fiscal years 2003-2004 and 2004-2005 towards the \$1 billion that it pledged at the Kananaskis Summit. These funds have gone towards programs that have, among other priorities, facilitated the dismantling of weapons-grade plutonium production facilities in Russia and programs to employ former Russian nuclear weapons scientists so that they might not be enticed to develop nuclear weapons for other states or terrorist organizations.⁴⁷ Also, Canada has been an active supporter of non-proliferation initiatives conducted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inasmuch as it is now the second largest financial contributor to the IAEA Nuclear Security Fund.⁴⁸

³⁹ Nuclear Energy, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 4 May 2005. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://www2.nrcan.gc.ca/es/erb/erb/english/View.asp?x=446>

⁴⁰ Country Nuclear Power Profiles – Canada, International Atomic Energy Agency, December 2003. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. http://www.pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/cnpp2004/CNPP_Webpage/countryprofiles/Canada/Canada2003.htm

⁴¹ Canadian Positions on Key Non-Proliferation, Arms Control, and Disarmament Policy Issues, Foreign Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 26 January 2004. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/foreign_policy/arms/new_nuclear-en.asp

⁴² Nuclear Security Update, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (Ottawa) 13 October 2005. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/safety/security/update.cfm>

⁴³ Generation IV International Forum, U.S. Department of Energy – Office of Nuclear Energy (Washington) 10 June 2005. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://gen-iv.ne.doe.gov/GENIVintl-gif.asp>

⁴⁴ Advanced CANDU Reactor, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (Ottawa). Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://www.aecl.ca/index.asp?menuid=21&miid=519&layid=3&csid=485>

⁴⁵ Country Nuclear Power Profiles – Canada, International Atomic Energy Agency, December 2003. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. http://www.pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/cnpp2004/CNPP_Webpage/countryprofiles/Canada/Canada2003.htm

⁴⁶ Country Nuclear Power Profiles – Canada, International Atomic Energy Agency, December 2003. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. http://www.pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/cnpp2004/CNPP_Webpage/countryprofiles/Canada/Canada2003.htm

⁴⁷ Global Partnership Program – Securing the Future, Foreign Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 2005. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/foreign_policy/global_partnership/pdf/GPX_AnnualReport-EN.pdf

⁴⁸ Nuclear Security Update, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (Ottawa) 13 October 2005. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/safety/security/update.cfm>

Canada and Alternative Energy, Energy Conservation, and Climate Change

Although not restricted solely to the pursuit of reductions in Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, Canada's commitments under the Kyoto Protocol and other GHG emissions reduction frameworks have previously served as a significant driver behind Canada's commitments toward alternative energy and energy conservation. Over the past two decades, the government of Canada has made several commitments to reduce Canada's GHG emissions. At the 1988 G7 Summit, then Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney committed to stabilizing Canada's GHG emissions at 1990 levels by the year 2005. This commitment was then reiterated, along with others, when Canada ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the 1992 Earth Summit. Canada's commitments under the UNFCCC were then superseded in 1997 by the Kyoto Protocol where Canada agreed to reduce its GHG emissions from 2008 to 2012 to 6% below 1990 levels.⁴⁹ In order to meet these commitments, Canada has launched numerous policy initiatives that have been characterized by their emphasis on controlling GHG emissions from the production and consumption of energy.⁵⁰ Insofar as these initiatives have included programs to support renewable energy and energy conservation, Canada's attempts to meet its international GHG emissions reductions commitments have formed the backbone of its commitments to alternative energy and energy conservation.

The government of Canada's programs to promote alternative energy sources (especially renewable energies) and energy conservation have generally focused on providing information and subsidies to encourage businesses and consumers to voluntarily shift to using alternative energy sources or to conserve energy.⁵¹ In the government of Canada's most recent policy initiatives such as Project Green, which was launched in April 2005, these programs to promote alternative energy and conservation included the Renewable Energy Deployment Initiative's (REDI) mandate designed to assist in the development of a sustainable market in Canada for renewable energy systems by providing incentives that will stimulate demand for such systems. The REDI is a 9 year, \$51 million program that came into effect in April 1998.⁵² The Wind Power Production Incentive (WPPI) and the Renewable Power Production Incentive (RPPI) are examples of programs that provide a subsidy in order to encourage the development of renewable energy generating capacity. Both programs provide a 1 cent/kWh subsidy to qualifying renewable energy facilities.⁵³ The WPPI is intended to provide financial support for the installation of an additional 1000 MW of wind powered generating capacity over 5 years starting from 2002.⁵⁴ The RPPI, as announced in 2005, is intended to stimulate 1500 MW of new renewable energy generating capacity, other than from wind.⁵⁵ The EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Incentive Program and the EnerGuide for Low-Income Households program were examples of initiatives taken by the government of Canada to promote energy conservation. The EnerGuide programs provided grants to homeowners to create an incentive for Canadians to complete energy-efficiency improvements to their homes.⁵⁶ These programs have recently been discontinued by the newly elected government of Canada.⁵⁷

⁴⁹ Burning Our Money to Warm the Planet: Canada's Ineffective Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Commentary No. 234, C.D. Howe Institute (Toronto) May 2006. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. http://www.cdhowe.org/pdf/commentary_234.pdf

⁵⁰ Burning Our Money to Warm the Planet: Canada's Ineffective Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Commentary No. 234, C.D. Howe Institute (Toronto) May 2006. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. http://www.cdhowe.org/pdf/commentary_234.pdf

⁵¹ Burning Our Money to Warm the Planet: Canada's Ineffective Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Commentary No. 234, C.D. Howe Institute (Toronto) May 2006. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. http://www.cdhowe.org/pdf/commentary_234.pdf

⁵² Background on REDI, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 29 June 2005. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. <http://www2.nrcan.gc.ca/es/erb/erb/english/View.asp?x=672>

⁵³ Burning Our Money to Warm the Planet: Canada's Ineffective Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Commentary No. 234, C.D. Howe Institute (Toronto) May 2006. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. http://www.cdhowe.org/pdf/commentary_234.pdf

⁵⁴ Wind Power Production Incentive (WPPI), Dealing With Climate Change – Policies and Measures Database, International Energy Agency, 2006. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/dbtw-wpd/textbase/pamsdb/detail.aspx?mode=cc&id=846>

⁵⁵ Renewable Power Production Incentive, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 16 September 2005. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. <http://www2.nrcan.gc.ca/es/erb/erb/english/View.asp?x=681>

⁵⁶ EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Incentive, Dealing With Climate Change – Policies and Measures Database, International Energy Agency, 2006. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/dbtw-wpd/textbase/pamsdb/detail.aspx?mode=cc&id=1338>

⁵⁷ EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Incentive, Natural Resources Canada (Ottawa) 19 May 2006. Date of Access: 4 June 2006. <http://www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/residential/personal/home-improvement.cfm?attr=4>

The fact that the new government in Canada has cancelled several of the previous government's climate change programs has provided ample evidence that the new government intends to take Canada's climate change and, by extension, its alternative energy policies in a different direction. Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government has pledged to develop a "Made-in-Canada" solution that will focus on developing new technologies in order to reduce Canada's GHG emissions. This pledge, and the Harper government's cancellation of the previous government's climate change programs, suggests that the Harper government intends to ignore Canada's Kyoto commitments.⁵⁸

Any rejection of Kyoto, however, does not, at this point, necessarily mean that Canada will ignore its commitments through the G8 to increase the share of renewable energy as a proportion of energy consumption. While the current government sat in opposition, it stated its belief in the necessity of promoting alternative energy and transitional fuels (such as biodiesel and ethanol) given the expense of ensuring the security of supply of traditional fuels.⁵⁹ Further, the Harper government has recently moved to fulfill its promise that it will increase the ethanol content of gasoline in Canada to 5% by 2010.⁶⁰ Irrespective of an initiative from Prime Minister Harper's Conservative government to reduce Canada's GHG emissions, the primary question with respect to the Canadian government's policies on alternative energy sources is whether the potential rejection of Kyoto will have removed one of the drivers behind Canada's commitments toward promoting alternative energy.

Conclusion

Since taking office in February 2006 the Harper government's most publicized forays into changing Canada's energy policies have revolved around the new government's negative attitudes toward the Kyoto Protocol. In this, the new government has already announced that it expects Canada to fall short of its Kyoto targets.⁶¹ This seems to validate suggestions that the Harper government simply wants the Kyoto Protocol to disappear. Given this position, more of the same can be expected at the upcoming summit in St. Petersburg in terms of Canada's positions on alternative energy and GHG emissions reductions. Canada can be expected to continue to support calls to increase the share of alternative energy in the world's energy supply mix so long as those calls are not contained in anything but the most voluntary commitment to reduce GHG emissions.

That aside, at the St. Petersburg Summit Canada can be expected to continue to support the commitments that the G8 has made towards nuclear security and competitive energy markets in recent years. In terms of nuclear security, this is demonstrated by Canada's support for the G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction.⁶² More importantly, given the degree to which Canada's energy markets are integrated with those of the United States and the Harper government's support for increasing that integration, Canada can be expected to continue to support the G8's belief in market solutions.

Compiled by:
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⁵⁸ Where's the plan, people? Yes, the first phase of Kyoto is dead. But the Conservatives owe us an alternative, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 24 May 2006.

⁵⁹ 2005 Policy Declaration, Conservative Party of Canada, 19 March 2005. Date of Access: 1 June 2006.

<http://www.conservative.ca/media/20050319-POLICY%20DECLARATION.pdf>

⁶⁰ Ottawa seeks help developing alternative to Kyoto; Ethanol initiative targets emissions, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 23 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006.

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20060523.wxrenewable23/BNStory/National/?cid=al_gam_nletter_newsUp

⁶¹ Where's the plan, people? Yes, the first phase of Kyoto is dead. But the Conservatives owe us an alternative, The Globe and Mail, (Toronto), 24 May 2006.

⁶² Canada Announces Support for Chernobyl Shelter, Foreign Affairs Canada (Ottawa) 25 April 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/foreign_policy/global_partnership/Chernobyl-shelter-en.asp

France

French energy policy is formulated through the General Directorate for Energy and Raw Materials (DGEMP) of the Ministry of Economy, Finances and Industry.⁶³ The French Republic is currently in the process of liberalizing its energy market. By July 2004, the market had opened to commercial and industrial clients, with plans for an extension to residential clients by July 2007. Approximately 90% of the energy market belongs to Electricité de France (EDF).⁶⁴ EDF comprises 13 corporations active in all markets of the energy sector.⁶⁵

France's Energy Security Commitments through the G8

Following the 2000 Okinawa Summit, where G8 nations emphasized their support for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), the Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty, and the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), France registered a positive compliance rating as a result of its initiatives to reduce nuclear forces. However, as a result of inaction following the environmental commitments made at the 2001 Genoa Conference, France received a compliance rating of only 0.17.⁶⁶ In 2004, delivering on its 2003 Evian commitments, the French government was an active participant and leader in conferences on renewable energy, garnering a positive compliance score.⁶⁷ France was also found in full compliance of the Evian commitment to supporting the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). In 2003, France began taking a proactive role in supporting the work of the IAEA in investigating the Iranian nuclear program and initiating a UN Security Council Resolution regarding non-proliferation.⁶⁸ France continued its record of positive compliance following the 2004 Sea Island Summit. The French government took measures to increase investment in the energy sector in order to promote conservation, infrastructural investment, and research and development of new technologies.⁶⁹ France also continued its commitment to non-proliferation by engaging the Iranian government to abandon all nuclear enrichment activities.⁷⁰ Finally, following the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, France again complied with obligations to pursue renewable energy sources, expand energy sources,⁷¹ and adhere to the Kyoto Protocol,⁷² though France failed to fully comply with funding responsibilities to the Global Partnership Program.⁷³

Energy Consumption

At Gleneagles and subsequently, both President Jacques Chirac and Prime Minister Dominic de Villepin have affirmed their government's commitment to cleaner energy technologies.

However, France has only begun its reform program. Currently, the country stands as the third largest European consumer of energy, accounting for 2.6% of the world's total petroleum consumption. Owing to meager petroleum reserves, France imports over 95% of its petroleum needs. Consumption of petroleum

⁶³ France Profile, Enerdata (Paris) May 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006.

⁶⁴ <http://www.enerdata.fr/enerdatauk/products/demo/profiles/france.html>

⁶⁵ IEA Perspective on French Energy Policy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 18 March 2004. Date of Access: 18 May 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/speech/2004/mandil/adamsmith.pdf>

⁶⁶ EDF Group in France, EDF Group. Date of Access: 17 May 2006 http://www.edf.com/html/module_inter/en/ouest/france.htm

⁶⁷ Keeping Genoa's Commitments: The 2002 G8 Compliance Report, the G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportComp.pdf>

⁶⁸ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report: Energy, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/index.html

⁶⁹ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report: Weapons of Mass Destruction, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/12-2003evian_wmd.pdf

⁷⁰ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report: Conservation and Renewables, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/index.html

⁷¹ 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Report: Non-Proliferation: Weapons of Mass Destruction, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/08_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁷² 2005 Gleneagles Interim Compliance Report: Renewable Energy, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 9 February 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-18_g8-i-comp_renewable.pdf

⁷³ 2005 Gleneagles Interim Compliance Report: Climate Change, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 9 February 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-19_g8-i-comp_cc.pdf

⁷⁴ 2005 Gleneagles Interim Compliance Report: Non-proliferation, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 9 February 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-16_g8-i-comp_nonprolif.pdf

increased nearly 10% between 1993 and 2005. France accounts for 1.6% of the world's total consumption, in the natural gas sector. While in 2003 natural gas stood at about 15% of all energy consumed in France, this represented an increase of over 30% in ten years. Equally, the electricity sector (define as that energy which is generated by hydroelectric, nuclear, thermal, and various green technologies) also saw an increase of nearly 10% in that time period. This increase can be partially attributed to a fall in coal production, which declined nearly 85% between 1993 and 2003 and currently accounts for 5% of France's energy consumption.⁷⁴ As of 2000, France ranked 26th in world energy consumption per capita, and third among G8 nations.⁷⁵ France is the twelfth largest carbon emitting country in Europe, accounting for 1.6% of the world's total CO₂ emission. Carbon emissions have risen 12% between 1993 and 2003.⁷⁶

Kyoto Protocol

Under the Kyoto Protocol, France must reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 552 million tonnes a year. In order to meet this target, France has turned to nuclear power with French President Jacques Chirac heralding nuclear power as the most economically and environmentally friendly energy choice. Currently, nuclear energy is the second-cheapest generator of electricity at \$0.043 kwh - gas stands at \$0.04 kwh, while wind power is nearly double the price, at \$0.09 kwh.⁷⁷ However, in December 2005, the Institute for Public Policy Research warned that France needed to implement emergency policies in order to honour its commitments.⁷⁸

White Paper on Energy Policy

On 13 July 2005, the Jacques Chirac's government unveiled a White paper (Loi de Programme) for energy policy. The paper establishes four major goals: increasing France's energy independence and security; maintaining competitive prices for energy; fighting environmental destruction and the effects of global warming; and ensuring civilian access to energy. The plan also included three specific mobilization plans: the "Energy for Development" plan, to increase energy access in developing countries; the "Face Sud" plan to install at least 200 000 solar water heaters and 50 000 solar rooftops by 2010; and the "Terre Énergie" plan for the use of biofuels equivalent to 10 million tonnes of oil. The Loi de Programme made clear that nuclear energy will remain a significant source of French energy. In 2015 the French government will re-open debate on whether to develop a third generation of reactors when the current generation expires in 2020.⁷⁹

Other Initiatives

In August 2005, following the announcement of the White Paper, Prime Minister de Villepin reiterated the importance of French energy security, sustainable development, and the fight against global warming. De Villepin articulated a three-pronged strategy to combat these issues. Firstly, the prime minister called for investment in all markets of the energy sector, particularly oil. This involves an increase in investment in refining capacity, part of which would be submitted by national oil companies such as Total. He also called for investment in a new generation of nuclear power. The second part of the strategy is investment

⁷⁴ An Energy Summary of France, Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (Washington) 5 December 2005. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://www.csforum.org/france.htm>

⁷⁵ Indicator: Energy Consumption per capital - 2001, Globalis Virtual University (Arendal). Date of Access: 15 May 2006. <http://globalis.gvu.unu.edu/indicator.cfm?IndicatorID=146&country=FR#rowFR>

⁷⁶ An Energy Summary of France, Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (Washington) 5 December 2005. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://www.csforum.org/france.htm>

⁷⁷ France's nuclear response to Kyoto, BBC News (London) 18 February 2005. Date of Access: 17 May 2006. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4276461.stm>

⁷⁸ Europe 'behind on Kyoto pledges', BBC News (London) 26 December 2005. Date of Access: 17 May 2006. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/politics/4561576.stm

⁷⁹ La synthèse de la loi de programme du 13 juillet 2005 fixant les orientations de la politique énergétique, Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et de l'Industrie (Paris) 21 July 2005. Date of Access: 18 May 2006. <http://www.industrie.gouv.fr/energie/politiqu/synthese-loi-13-7-05.htm>

and development of renewable energy sources, such as hydroelectricity and biofuels. Finally, de Villepin spoke of energy savings through taxation, credits, and the promotion of energy-friendly products.⁸⁰

Shortly after Prime Minister de Villepin's August 2005 speech, French oil company Total announced a €2.8 billion investment between 2005 and 2010 to increase diesel production at Total's four refineries, fund research to improve energy efficiency and decrease environmental destruction, and purchase machinery to convert fuel into automotive oil. Total will also spend €500 million on renewable energy and 'green' power sources, including wind, photovoltaic and biofuel power, as well as on research into technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve the efficiency of automotive fuels. Total's capital expenditure in the second half of the decade will be three times its expenditure from the first.⁸¹

In May 2006, Prime Minister de Villepin met with Environment Minister Nelly Olin, Interior Minister Jean-François Copé, and Industry Minister François Loos. The four developed a framework to increase consumption of biofuels relative to France's total energy consumption.⁸² Other announcements included financial assistance to the industries most affected by the price of oil; a €4 billion investment by oil companies into research and development from 2006-2010 and nearly €20 billion in investment from EDF over the next five years. €2 billion will be targeted to the building of sixteen new biofuel plants in order to achieve the French target of 10% biofuel consumption by 2015 from the White Paper. A 50% subsidy will be offered on solar panels, and financial incentives offered to those who use solar electricity or other green energy sources. Finally, the prime minister promised to keep the price of electricity in line with inflation over the next ten years, with gas prices constant for one year-terms.⁸³

New Technologies

In June 2005, France won its bid to host the construction of a €10 billion nuclear fusion plant. France will commit 10% of the funding for ITER, a project between the European Union, the US, Russia, Japan, India South Korea and China. Hosted at Cadarache, France, the project aims to develop a fusion device that could potentially produce thermal energy comparable to electricity producing power stations, creating fusion fuel. One kilogram of fusion fuel is the equivalent to ten thousand kilograms of fossil fuels.⁸⁴ However, the complex project has met with skepticism, with some claiming that the funds would be better spent on proven sources of renewable energy. Groups such as Greenpeace International have claimed that fusion energy carries health risk, and that the development of fusion energy will create "a whole new set of nuclear risks".⁸⁵ Most significantly, any practical yield from the project will be gained 50 years into the future.⁸⁶

In 2005, EDF launched the Flamanville 3 Project to construct a new nuclear power plant by 2012. The €3.3 billion project is a preliminary trial for the expiration of the current generation of nuclear plants in 2020. Although President Chirac stated in July 2005 that discussion regarding the renewal of another generation of nuclear power would open in 2015, the Flamanville 3 Project will act as a working, current model around which debate can occur.⁸⁷ Following a public enquiry into the construction of the reactor during the spring and summer 2006, the project is expected to begin in late 2006. Prime Minister de

⁸⁰ Intelligence Brief: French Energy Policy, Power and Interest News Report (Rome) 25 August 2005.

⁸¹ http://www.pinr.com/report.php?ac=view_printable&report_id=353&language_id=1

⁸² Total steps up capital expenditure program in France, Total (Paris) 16 September 2005. Date of Access: 17 May 2006.

http://www.total.com/en/press/press_releases/pr_2005/050916_capital_expenditure_program_7922.htm

⁸³ Actualités - Energie : "une politique de développement durable", Office of the Prime Minister (Paris) 15 May 2006. Date of Access: 17 May 2006. http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/information/actualites_20/energie-politique-developpement-durable_55986.html

⁸⁴ Déclaration sur la Politique énergétique, Portail du Gouvernement Premier Ministre (Paris) 15 May 2006. Date of Access: 18 May 2006. http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/acteurs/interventions-premier-ministre_9/discours_498/declaration-politique-energetique_55977.html

⁸⁵ France gets nuclear fusion plant, BBC News (London) 28 June 2005. Date of Access: 17 May 2006.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/4629239.stm>

⁸⁶ Nuclear fusion reactor project in France: an expensive and senseless nuclear stupidity, Greenpeace International (Vancouver) 28 June 2005. Date of Access: 18 May 2006. <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/press/releases/ITERprojectFrance>

⁸⁷ Mixed Reactions to ITER, EurActiv (Kent) 11 July 2005. Date of Access: 18 May 2006. <http://www.euractiv.com/en/science/mixed-reactions-iter/article-141693>

⁸⁸ Flamanville 3 Project, EDF (Paris). Date of Access: 18 May 2006. <http://www.edf.fr/html/epr/uk/projet.html>

Villepin expressed his support for the project, calling it 'essential for our country's energy future'.⁸⁸ Environmental groups have protested, claiming that Flamanville 3 will produce more high level radioactive waste than any currently operational French nuclear reactor.⁸⁹

Bilateral Cooperation

Since 1982, France has been partnered with China on nuclear issues. In July 2000 a seventh protocol was signed between the China Atomic Energy Authority and the French Atomic Energy Commission. The two countries agreed to cooperate on the research, development, engineering and production of nuclear power.⁹⁰ In 2005, EDF won two contracts with the China Guangdong Nuclear Power Company (CGNPC), creating a partnership of consultation, operations and investment in nuclear power in China.⁹¹

Oil Prices

In September 2005, the office of Prime Minister de Villepin announced an action plan to tackle skyrocketing oil prices and dampen their effects on industry and consumers. During a 1 September 2005 press conference, de Villepin stated that the measures were also meant to encourage the development and use of renewable energy in the new "post-oil" era. Actions included tax deductions for individuals and reduced taxes for the agricultural and transport industries. The French government also engaged in talks with oil companies to prevent sudden price increases. Long-term measures, aimed at decreasing French dependence on oil, included market incentives for use of renewable energy.⁹²

In May 2006, Prime Minister de Villepin declared that by 2010, biofuels for automobiles should be easily accessible to the population, both for use in green-powered automobiles, and for conversion to use in diesel-fuelled automobiles. The Prime Minister also called for new "green gas stations".⁹³

Energy Policy and the European Union

Given the common concern among European nations regarding the rising import dependency and rates of energy consumption, the European Commission launched a 2006 engagement to develop a common energy strategy. In January 2006, France contributed to the debate with the presentation of a series of proposals to EU finance ministers. Central to France's proposals, announced by Finance Minister Thierry Breton, was a new approach to nuclear energy. The proposals held that nuclear energy was a secure source of power and suggested research and development of further nuclear options. Minister Breton recommended increased funding and research into renewable energy and "green" petrofuel. The French recommendations stressed the "subsidiarity principle", stating that energy policy, and particularly nuclear energy, should be handled by each member state respectively, with the EU intervening only in extraordinary circumstances.⁹⁴

In March 2006, an Energy Green Paper was published for discussion on a common European Energy Policy. The paper recommended open, liberalized gas and electricity markets, diversification of energy sources, further development of EU-Russia and EU-OPEC relations, coordination of research programs, and a strategic plan for renewable energy. Most significantly, the Green Paper allocated €4.8 billion from

⁸⁸ Public enquiry into Flamanville-3 EPR build to start in spring, Platts (London) 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. <http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/8437961.xml?S=n>

⁸⁹ Illegal French nuclear waste dump must be removed and decontaminated, Greenpeace International (Vancouver) 29 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/press/releases/illegal-french-nuclear-waste-d>

⁹⁰ Nuclear Notes from France, Embassy of France (Washington D.C.) September 2000. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://www.ambafrance-us.org/intheus/nuclear/n2f2/septembre2000.asp>

⁹¹ Nuclear Notes from France, Embassy of France (Washington D.C.) September 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://www.ambafrance-us.org/intheus/nuclear/n2f2/spring2005.asp>

⁹² Les Dossiers D'Actualité: Répondre aux défis d'un pétrole trop cher, Office of the Prime Minister (Paris) 23 September 2005. Date of Access: 15 May 2006. http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/information/dossiers-actualites_19/repondre-defis-petrole-trop_519/

⁹³ Déclaration sur la Politique énergétique, Portail du Gouvernement Premier Ministre (Paris) 15 May 2006. Date of Access: 18 May 2006. http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/acteurs/interventions-premier-ministre_9/discours_498/declaration-politique-energetique_55977.html

⁹⁴ France unveils proposals for EU energy policy, EurActiv (Kent) 23 January 2006. Date of Access: 18 May 2006. <http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy/france-unveils-proposals-eu-energy-policy/article-151855>

the total 2007-2011 research budget of €7.8 billion to nuclear energy. France supported the proposals of the Paper, but expressed concern over the preservation of sovereignty within a multinational energy policy.⁹⁵

France and Nuclear Security

France is a strong supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), having halted all nuclear testing in 1996 in the interest of global peace and security. Today, France works to enforce non-proliferation through bilateral relations with both nations and suppliers, as well as multilaterally through the Proliferation Security Initiative. Additionally, France has also ratified the comprehensive text ban treaty and supports the Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty.⁹⁶

As a member of EU-3, France has been engaged in dialogue with Iran regarding the status of its nuclear program since 2003. France's role has been to lend diplomatic support to the IAEA and encourage Iranian cooperation and compliance with the non proliferation regime.⁹⁷ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs terms Iran's continuing defiance towards the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) "very troubling".⁹⁸ While France recognizes Iran's right to civilian nuclear energy, it has joined with China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the rest of the European Union in calling for a suspension of all nuclear programs while Iran gains the confidence of the international community.⁹⁹ France has voiced support for the Russian government's February 2006 proposal to partner with the Iranians on enrichment, provided that all activities occur on Russian soil.¹⁰⁰ In June 2006, French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy continued to call for Iranian compliance with the NPT and the demands of the international community and warned that non-compliance would result in Security Council intervention.¹⁰¹

Conclusion

The French government's approach to energy security at St. Petersburg is likely to be consistent with the message delivered earlier this year during debates over the European Energy Policy. President Chirac will continue to support the research and development of green power. The French government remains committed to nuclear power and the more effective management and development of nuclear energy. It will also continue to support the targets of the Kyoto Protocol, as well as the more significant targets they have set for themselves, and likely encourage other countries to extend their commitments.

**Compiled by:
Farnam Bidgoli**

⁹⁵ Fuelling our future: the European Commission sets out its vision for an Energy Strategy for Europe , Europa (Brussels) 8 March 2006. Date of Access: 15 May 2006.

⁹⁶ Enhancing security through disarmament and non-proliferation, French Foreign Ministry (Paris) Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/282&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

⁹⁷ Joint Statement At the End of A Visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran by the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, and Germany, French Foreign Ministry (Tehran) 21 October 2003. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/actu/bulletin.gb.asp?liste=20031022.gb.html#Chapitre2>

⁹⁸ Iran's announcement to resume "research and development activities," Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 4 January 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/iran_301/the-iranian-nuclear-question_2724/iran-announcement-to-resume-research-and-development-activities-paris-04.01.06_3299.html

⁹⁹ Conclusions of the Meeting on Iran, German Foreign Ministry (Berlin) 30 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/iran_301/the-iranian-nuclear-question_2724/conclusions-of-the-meeting-on-iran-berlin-march-30-2006_4322.html

¹⁰⁰ Franco-Russian joint statement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Moscow) 14 February 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/iran_301/the-iranian-nuclear-question_2724/franco-russian-joint-statement-february-14-2006_3884.html

¹⁰¹ Reply by M. Philippe Douste-Blazy, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to a question in the National Assembly, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 7 June 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/iran_301/the-iranian-nuclear-question_2724/european-union-and-iran-on-june-2006_4959.html

Germany

Germany is a net consumer of energy, producing minimal stocks of oil and gas for domestic consumption from North Sea operations. Some 33% of its energy needs are met by nuclear production; renewables account for another 10%,¹⁰² an increase from 9.4% in 2004.¹⁰³

As a net consumer of energy, Germany's initiatives in the field of energy security have targeted the demand side rather than the supply side of the issue. The German government committed to a 21% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2012 and, as of 2004, had already achieved a 19% reduction.¹⁰⁴ One-third of its energy is provided by nuclear power plants, but it has committed to eliminating all 19 of its plants by 2020; indeed, it has already decommissioned two.¹⁰⁵ The German government is planning on replacing nuclear energy with renewable energy sources, such as wind power, geothermal energy, and burning methane recovered from biomass.

Commitment to the Environment

Alternative energy sources

Germany has been a leader in the development of alternative energy sources and has set itself ambitious goals for the incorporation of renewable energies into its energy market. In 1991 Germany established a law regulating the transference of electricity from renewable resources to the electricity grid. This system was expanded in 2000 under the Renewable Energy Sources Act (*Erneuerbare-Energien-Gesetz* - EEG).¹⁰⁶ In 2004 the EEG was amended to include "[o]ther support programmes as well as measures for research, development and demonstration of future-oriented technologies" that round out the German government's range of support measures.¹⁰⁷ With these commitments, "[t]he proportion of power consumption provided by renewable energies is planned to rise to at least 12.5 % by 2010. It should be at least 20 % in 2020."¹⁰⁸

Renewable energies have already made significant inroads into the German energy market. The percentage of total energy consumed from renewable sources is to be increased to 4.2 % by 2010, 10 % by 2020 and 50 % by 2050. The target for 2010 was actually exceeded in 2005, when renewable energies accounted for 4.6 % of consumption.¹⁰⁹ In 2005, wind energy was the largest contributor of renewable energy to the German market, supplying 26.5 billion kWh. Hydropower provided 21.5 billion kWh, biomass 10 billion kWh.¹¹⁰

¹⁰² The World Factbook, Central Intelligence Agency, 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 January 2006. <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/rankorder/2173rank.html>.

¹⁰³ Renewable energy market still growing, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 16 February 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36696/>

¹⁰⁴ Interview: Germany's Environment Minister Jürgen Trittin, Guardian Unlimited, 15 March 2005.

¹⁰⁵ Germany Shuts Second Nuclear Power Plant in Phase Out Plan, Bloomberg, 11 May 2005.

¹⁰⁶ Listed in the website of Germany's Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) http://www.bmu.de/english/renewable_energy/downloads/doc/36865.php, downloaded on 2 June 2006.

¹⁰⁷ BMU-Brochure: Renewable Energies - The way forward, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) November 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/files/pdfs/allgemein/application/pdf/broschuere_ee_zukunft_en.pdf

¹⁰⁸ BMU-Brochure: Innovation Through Research - 2005 Annual Report on Research Funding in the Renewable Energies Sector, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) February 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/files/erneuerbare_energien/downloads/application/pdf/jahresbericht_forschung_ee_2005_en.pdf

¹⁰⁹ BMU-Brochure: Innovation Through Research - 2005 Annual Report on Research Funding in the Renewable Energies Sector, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) February 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/files/erneuerbare_energien/downloads/application/pdf/jahresbericht_forschung_ee_2005_en.pdf

¹¹⁰ Renewable energy market still growing, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 16 February 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36696/>

International Conference for Renewable Energies

At the 2003 Evian G8 Summit, Germany pledged to host an international conference on renewable energy. The meeting was to cover the issues of the formation of the political framework to allow market development; the increase of private and public financing in support of renewables; and human and institutional capacity building, particularly as it relates to R&D.¹¹¹ Pursuant to this commitment, Germany hosted the International Conference for Renewable Energies in Bonn from 1 – 4 June 2004. The Bonn conference introduced the International Action Programme for the increased use of renewable energy, an agreement that includes over 200 individual contributions and commitments. Germany, for its part, has disbursed over €66 million to projects geared towards the development of, among others, photovoltaic, wind, geothermal and solar power generation.¹¹²

Recently, current Federal Environment Minister Sigmar Gabriel stated that “[t]he conference in Bonn was the dawning of a new age of solar energy. The Action Programme adopted in Bonn alone will lead to investments of about USD 320 billion. Up to 300 million people will have access to electricity for the first time. This is a big step towards global justice.”¹¹³ China, a participant at the Bonn conference, was noted by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety as having made an “outstanding contribution” to the development and dissemination of alternative energy sources.¹¹⁴

Nuclear Energy, Safety and Security

In a November statement at the World Renewable Energy Assembly in Bonn, German Environment Minister Gabriel stated that “Economic growth and climate protection cannot be based on nuclear power.”¹¹⁵ This position reflects the German adoption of the “Act in the structured phase out of the utilization of nuclear energy for the commercial generation of electricity” in 2002.¹¹⁶ The act places a ban of the construction of new nuclear power plants, restricts the operating life-span of current plants to 32 years, and increases the financial security required for each plant to cover possible damages to €2.3 billion.¹¹⁷

The policy was called into question following the disruption of natural gas imports during the Russian-Ukrainian gas dispute. During the conflict, German Economic Minister Michael Glos noted his belief that Germany should rethink plans to decommission all existing nuclear power plants to ensure the maintenance of German energy supplies.¹¹⁸ The release of a Russian draft document to be considered at the St. Petersburg G8 Summit proposing the increased use of nuclear power generation was received negatively by an unnamed German government spokesman, who said that the proposal drafted by the Russians “does not represent Germany’s position at all.”¹¹⁹ Soon afterward, Minister Glos reiterated his position and that of German Chancellor Angela Merkel’s Christian Democrats, namely that Germany must review its anti-nuclear policy or else be isolated from a “global coordination to curb surging energy

¹¹¹ Renewables 2004, www.renewables2004.de/en/2004/default.asp.

¹¹² BMU-Brochure: Innovation Through Research - 2005 Annual Report on Research Funding in the Renewable Energies Sector, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) February 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/files/erneuerbare_energien/downloads/application/pdf/jahresbericht_forschung_ee_2005_en.pdf

¹¹³ Press Statement by Sigmar Gabriel: The expansion of renewable energies has to be accelerated worldwide, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 26 November 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36360/36356/>

¹¹⁴ Press Statement by Sigmar Gabriel: The expansion of renewable energies has to be accelerated worldwide, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 26 November 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36360/36356/>

¹¹⁵ Press Statement by Sigmar Gabriel: The expansion of renewable energies has to be accelerated worldwide, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 26 November 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36360/36356/>

¹¹⁶ General Information - Nuclear Safety, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin). Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://www.bmu.de/english/nuclear_safety/information/doc/4300.php

¹¹⁷ General Information - Nuclear Safety, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin). Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://www.bmu.de/english/nuclear_safety/information/doc/4300.php

¹¹⁸ Gas Dispute Reignites Atomic Energy Debate, Deutsche Welle, 2 January 2006.

¹¹⁹ G8’s Nuclear Plan Draws Fire from Germany, Financial Times, 16 March 2006.

prices.”¹²⁰ In contrast to the viewpoint of Minister Glos and Chancellor Merkel, Federal Environment Minister Gabriel contested that “economic growth cannot be based on nuclear power.”¹²¹ Further, Minister Gabriel argued that “[j]umping from one raw material to another, switching from oil imports to gas and then uranium does not create any supply security”; instead, supply security would be more easily established and maintained through the expansion of renewable energies, improving energy efficiency and through energy-saving measures.¹²² On 1 February 2006, in a speech given to the International Grid-Connected Renewable Energy Forum in Mexico, this viewpoint was reiterated by the Parliamentary State Secretary, Astrid Klug. She stated, “renewable energies secure our energy supply – also in the medium and long term. Fossil fuels, gas and coal are not infinitely available. Oil and gas are centralized in politically unstable regions...Over the past months, prices for electricity, oil, gas and coal have shot upwards, at times dramatically.”¹²³

Apart from future German nuclear plans, nuclear power is currently being utilized and this results in the need to monitor its safe and secure use. The issues of nuclear safety and security has been an important issue at past G8 summits. While most initiatives have been focused on safe storage of former weapons material, this is a separate issue from the safe operation of nuclear plants, which is a more direct concern for Germany. Several directives have targeted the safe operation of nuclear plants in Germany itself and in cooperation with its neighbours. For example, the Working Group on Nuclear and Radiation Safety (WGNRS), created under the Council of the Baltic Sea States, has duties that include: the collection of information about nuclear facilities and waste storage in the Baltic Sea region; identifying the sources of radioactivity which pose a potential risk in the Baltic Sea region; identifying potential nuclear and radiological risks that require immediate concerted remedial action; taking stock of and monitor various projects aimed at enhancing nuclear and radiation safety in the Baltic Sea region; and preparing relevant recommendations and suggest and develop initiatives accordingly.¹²⁴

Oil Supplies

After several years of rapidly increasing oil prices, there has been a renewed interest among G8 members to address the issue of oil. Much of the concern expressed by G8 communiqués has been focused on the economic, rather than environmental, impact of hydrocarbons. The G8's Okinawa Communiqué (2000) stated: “We are concerned about the adverse effect on world economic growth of recent developments in world crude oil markets.”¹²⁵ The Genoa Communiqué (2001) expressed the same concern and proposed initiatives to improve energy efficiency and to expand energy supply as solutions.¹²⁶ Germany has responded by adding objectives to improve its efficiency in oil and gas utilization to its energy priority list.¹²⁷

Conclusion

The German government has pursued its energy security-related policies with an emphasis on renewable energies. This can be expected to continue through the 2006 G8 St. Petersburg Summit. It will be interesting to note what role, if any, nuclear energy will play in the German energy plan. The conflicting

¹²⁰ Anti-Nuclear Policy to Isolate Germany From World Energy Quest: Glos, Kyodo News, 22 March 2006.

¹²¹ Press Statement by Sigmar Gabriel: The expansion of renewable energies has to be accelerated worldwide, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 26 November 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36360/36356/>

¹²² Gabriel: in 2020 renewable energies can contribute 25% to electricity supply, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 19 January 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36558/36356/>

¹²³ Speech by Parliamentary State Secretary Astrid Klug, Renewable Energy Development in Germany, Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Berlin) 1 February 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.erneuerbare-energien.de/inhalt/36601/36356/>

¹²⁴ Working Group on Nuclear and Radiation Safety, Council of the Baltic Sea States. Date of Access: 15 May 2006. <http://www.cbss.st/structure/wgnrs/>

¹²⁵ G7 Statement, G8 Okinawa 2000 (Okinawa) 2 July 2000. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/statement.htm>

¹²⁶ G7 Statement, G8 Genoa 2001 (Genoa) 20-21 July 2001. www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2001genoa/g7statement.htm

¹²⁷ Press Release: Federal Environment Minister Jürgen Trittin meets EU Environment and Energy Ministers, by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (Germany) 18 July 2003. Date of Access: 3 July 2006. <http://www.bmu.de/english/press/pm/pdf/4380.pdf>

viewpoints expressed by several German officials as to the perceived role of nuclear power in Germany's future underscores the current debate both in Germany and throughout the European Union. With German Chancellor Angela Merkel calling for "more coordination in the domain of security of supply" within Europe, energy efficiency and market expansion will become ever more important to ensuring European nations are able to meet their domestic demand,¹²⁸

Compiled by:
Steve Williamson

¹²⁸ Chancellor Merkel argues for more coordination on energy issues, Federal Government of Germany (Berlin) 23 March 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.bundesregierung.de/en/artikel-,10001.980081/Chancellor-Merkel-argues-for-m.htm>

Italy

A central theme of the upcoming G8 summit in St. Petersburg is the issue of energy security. Building on the 2005 Gleneagles Plan of Action – which centered on promoting research and technology, transforming the way energy is used and developing clean and renewable technologies¹²⁹ – the Russian government will seek to use their G8 Presidency to push for a long-term energy security strategy that acknowledges the interdependence of states.¹³⁰ The issue of energy security is vital to Italy due to its large-scale dependence on foreign sources of energy.

Italy's energy policy formation and implementation is shared between the government and regional authorities. Article 117 of the 2001 constitution details a 'concurrent legislation', whereby federal authorities establish the policies, guidelines and objectives to be followed, while regional authorities determine specific local laws and rules to achieve them.¹³¹ The Ministry of Productive Activities is responsible for energy policy and acts in coordination with the Ministry of the Environment and Territory as well as other ministries and governmental organizations. It also works with the independent Energy Authority (AEEG), which has been in operation since 1997 and is responsible for drafting procedures to meet the policy objectives set by the government.¹³²

Energy Consumption and Production

Italy relies on foreign sources for over 90% of its energy needs. Almost all of its energy supply is derived from fossil fuels, highlighting the importance of energy security and diversification.¹³³ Energy prices are generally higher in Italy than in other G8 states due to its external energy dependency as well as higher levels of taxation.¹³⁴

Oil, Gas and Electricity

The Italian government reduced its dependence on oil in 2000 by lowering the share of fossil fuels in its energy consumption to less than 50% for the first time in two decades.¹³⁵ In that year, oil consumption stood at 1.9 million barrels per day (bpd), with domestic oil production at 145,000 bpd. Despite the expansion of national oil production with the discovery of new reserves, domestic supply is not expected to increase to a level consistent with demand.¹³⁶

Italy has the third largest gas market in Europe, consuming 72 billion cubic meters in 2002. With declining domestic production and as a relatively small producer of natural gas (17,500 cubic meters in 1999),¹³⁷ Italy is expected to increase gas imports from 78% of total supply in 2001 to between 90% and 95% in 2010.¹³⁸ In 2000, electricity consumption was 269.2 TWh. (terawatt x one hour), representing a

¹²⁹ G8 Meetings will Focus on Energy Security, The Globe and Mail (Toronto) 17 June 2006. Date of Access: 18 June 2006.

¹³⁰ Gleneagles Plan of Action, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 15 June 2006.

¹³¹ <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/index.html>

¹³² Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

¹³³ <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹³⁴ Italy: Energy and Power, Encyclopedia of Nations, 2006. Date of Access: 15 June 2006.

¹³⁵ <http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Europe/Italy-ENERGY-AND-POWER.html>

¹³⁶ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

¹³⁷ <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹³⁸ Italy: Energy and Power, Encyclopedia of Nations, 2006. Date of Access: 15 June 2006.

¹³⁹ <http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Europe/Italy-ENERGY-AND-POWER.html>

¹⁴⁰ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

growth rate of almost 2.3% per year since 1990¹³⁹. Coal accounted for 11% of the sector, well below the OECD average of 30%. Italy imports some nuclear electricity from France¹⁴⁰ but does not engage in any production of nuclear power.¹⁴¹

Renewable Energy and Research and Development

In 2000, renewable energy represented 5.4% of total primary energy supply. Since, renewables and wastes (e.g. geothermal, solar and wind power) and hydroelectricity have increasing but remain a small percentage of overall energy consumption and production.¹⁴²

In 2000, the Italian government developed a new research and development program called the National Agency for New Technology, Energy and the Environment (ENEA), which seeks to produce new fuels, renewable and clean energies, and a higher rate of energy efficiency under its larger objective of 'Energy for the Future'.¹⁴³

Italy's Energy Security Commitments through the G8

Italy's dependence on foreign imports and limited domestic energy production make energy security a high priority. Italy has addressed this issue by increasing investment for new and improved infrastructure to transport and store natural gas and by developing and improving international electric interconnections.¹⁴⁴ The Italian government has also promoted renewable forms of energy and cleaner coal technologies as a way to achieve energy security, in accordance at the most recent G8 summits.

The 2003 Evian Action Plan on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development called for the promotion of "rapid innovation and market introduction of clean technologies" and to "support efforts aimed at substantially increasing the share of renewable energy sources in global energy use."¹⁴⁵ The 2004 Sea Island summit launched a number of initiatives for cleaner and more efficient energy like the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum and the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership.¹⁴⁶ The 2005 Gleneagles Plan of Action reaffirmed the importance of pursuing cleaner fossil fuels and financing the transition to cleaner sources of energy.¹⁴⁷

The Italian government has demonstrated its commitment to the G8 initiatives through the Mediterranean Renewable Energy Partnership (MEDREP), addressed in the Gleneagles Plan.¹⁴⁸ MEDREP, which was co-organized by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory, has put forward markets for clean technologies in both developed and developing Mediterranean countries.¹⁴⁹ In October 2005, Italy hosted the Photovoltaic Mediterranean Conference to promote solar energy, and the Italian government once

¹³⁹ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁴⁰ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁴¹ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁴² Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁴³ Strategies, Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and the Environment (Rome) 1 January 2006. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. <http://www.enea.it/com/ingl/default.htm>

¹⁴⁴ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁴⁵ Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: A G8 Action Plan, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 2 June 2003. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/sustainable_development_en.html

¹⁴⁶ Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: "3 R" Action Plan and Progress on Implementation, G8 Sea Island 2004 (Sea Island) 10 June 2004. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/sd.html>

¹⁴⁷ Gleneagles Plan of Action, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/index.html>

¹⁴⁸ Gleneagles Plan of Action, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/index.html>

¹⁴⁹ 2005 Gleneagles Interim Compliance Report: Renewable Energy, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 9 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-18_g8-i-comp_renewable.pdf

again stated its commitment to renewable sources of energy.¹⁵⁰ The Italian government also accepted responsibility at Gleneagles for a Global Bioenergy Partnership to promote solutions to problems like trade barriers, market development and technology-sharing.¹⁵¹ On 9 December 2005, Corrado Clini, Director-General of the Ministry of the Environment and Territory, hosted a roundtable to discuss how the partnership would work in conjunction with ongoing international initiatives.¹⁵²

Kyoto and UNFCCC

The Kyoto Protocol and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are referred to in both the Gleneagles Plan of Action as well as the G8 Energy and Environment Ministerial Roundtable discussions prior to the summit of 2005. The UNFCCC has been referred to as an “appropriate forum for negotiating future action on climate change” and that “those of us who have ratified the Kyoto Protocol welcome its entry into force and will work to make it a success.”¹⁵³

Italy signed the UNFCCC in June 1992 and Parliament approved the agreement on 15 January 1994.¹⁵⁴ The Kyoto Protocol was ratified in June 2002 and a national action plan to mitigate climate change was launched in December 2002.¹⁵⁵ Italy’s target has been to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 6.5% below 1990 levels between 2008 and 2012. While Italy has been somewhat successful in introducing measures to reduce various pollutants and improve air quality, energy-related carbon dioxide emissions have been in constant growth, reaching 6.5% above 1990 levels.¹⁵⁶

Relations with the G8: Russia and France

Bilateral relations with an energy-abundant Russia are vital with gas consumption on the rise. In January 2006, during the Gazprom crisis, supply shortages from Russia led to a 5% shortage, forcing Italy to use four million cubic metres of gas from its reserves.¹⁵⁷ Italy, along with other European Union (EU) members, has since pressed the Russian government to fulfill its energy obligations and avoid a repeat of the crisis.¹⁵⁸ Although the Russian government and the EU are still at odds about the incident, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi have recently announced plans to open their national markets on a reciprocal basis.¹⁵⁹

The Italian and French governments experienced friction in February 2006 due to the announced merger of French companies Gaz de France and Suez, the latter of which was an intended takeover target for Italian firm ENEL.¹⁶⁰ The Italian government initially called upon the European Union to intervene, and the merger was criticized for being an attempt by the French government (which has an 80% stake in Gaz

¹⁵⁰ 2005 Gleneagles Interim Compliance Report: Renewable Energy, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 9 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-18_g8-i-comp_renewable.pdf

¹⁵¹ Gleneagles Plan of Action, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 15 June 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/index.html>

¹⁵² “The Global Bioenergy Partnership: Working in Synergy with Ongoing International Initiatives and Processes.” Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (Montreal) 9 December 2005. Date of Access: 16 June 2006.

http://www2.minambiente.it/sito/settori_azione/pia/docs/roundtable_09_12_2005/chair_summary.pdf

¹⁵³ Gleneagles Plan of Action, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 15 June 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/index.html>

¹⁵⁴ Energy Efficiency Update: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) June 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

http://www.iea.org/textbase/newsletters/eneff/effi_updates_all.pdf

¹⁵⁵ IEA Commends Italy’s Progress in Energy Market Reform, but Sees Danger in Reducing Energy Diversification, International Energy Agency News and Events (Rome) 30 October 2003. Date of Access: 13 June 2006.

http://www.iea.org/Textbase/press/pressdetail.asp?PRESS_REL_ID=106

¹⁵⁶ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

<http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁵⁷ Italy Hit by Power Cuts, BBC News UK Edition (London) 26 June 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/3023908.stm>

¹⁵⁸ Italy Fired Up on French Gas Deal, BBC News (London) 28 February 2006. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4760020.stm>

¹⁵⁹ Russia and Italy ‘To Work Closer’, BBC News (London) 20 June 2006. Date of Access: 23 June 2006.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/5100602.stm>

¹⁶⁰ France and Italy to Discuss Suez, BBC News UK Edition, (London), 13 June 2006. Date of Access: 15 June 2006.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/5077738.stm>

de France) to keep Suez under French control. Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi has stated that French and Italian ministers are soon to hold talks to resolve the issue.¹⁶¹

The European Union

The European Union's energy market creation process encourages common energy policies that will lead to the liberalization of European energy markets, guarantee stable supply, create a common legislation for the liberalization of the natural gas and electricity sectors, and strengthen environmental protection.¹⁶²

The European Commission's directive for liberalization of the electricity sector was incorporated into Italian legislation in 1999 under Decree 79/1999. The industry, which was previously nationalized under the company ENEL, underwent restructuring when the government sold 32% of its shares in November 1999 and formed three separate generating companies that were sold between 2001 and 2002.¹⁶³ The market continued to liberalize up to 50% in May 2003, and full liberalization is planned for 2007.¹⁶⁴

The European Commission's directive for natural gas was included in Decree 164/2000, which introduced an industry cap to prevent single gas undertakings from controlling more than 61% of Italy's total gas supply by 2009 (the cap is currently at 67%).¹⁶⁵ The Natural Hydrocarbon Agency (ENI), which traditionally controlled the production and distribution of natural gas and petroleum, was privatized between 1995 and 1998, with the government's stake decreasing to 35% in 2002. Despite partial privatization, ENI remains the dominant company, and barriers to competitiveness exist.¹⁶⁶

Consistent with the EU's bid to increase the percentage of renewables in the energy market, the "White Paper for the Valorisation of Renewable Energy Sources" was part of the Italian's government's policy to integrate renewables into its own energy market. The White Paper was approved by the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Economic Planning on 6 August 1999, and a target of 5% by 2010 was defined for the share of (non-hydro) renewables in the total primary energy supply, an increase from the 3.1% share in 2000.¹⁶⁷

Obstacles

Italy's energy policy centers on energy security, market liberalization, diversification of supply sources, efficiency improvements and environmental protection.¹⁶⁸ Energy officials deem the country's continued reliance on foreign sources of energy a serious deficiency, a point highlighted during the massive power failure of September 2003 and again during the Russian supply shortage of January 2006.¹⁶⁹ Energy security through diversification is difficult because the government has ruled out the nuclear option and local resistance to coal technologies has become stronger over the last decade. In addition, Italy has the lowest research and development investment rate of the G8, making the significant growth of renewable energies in the near future unlikely.¹⁷⁰

¹⁶¹ Threat of Gas Crisis Recedes as Russia Pledges Support, The Guardian Unlimited (London) 12 June 2006. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. <http://business.guardian.co.uk/story/0,1795278,00.html>

¹⁶² Transport, Telecommunications and Energy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 2004. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/3_23_38.asp

¹⁶³ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁶⁴ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁶⁵ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁶⁶ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁶⁷ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁶⁸ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

¹⁶⁹ Blackout Exposes Italy Power Crisis, BBC News UK Edition, (London) 29 September 2003. Date of Access: 15 June 2006. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/3147810.stm>

¹⁷⁰ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

The continued market liberalization and decentralization of the energy sector has also made coordination between federal and regional authorities difficult. A marked lack of clarity as to the division of responsibilities between the federal and regional level further complicates the issue.¹⁷¹

Conclusion

While Italy has made strides in the last decade to reduce its consumption of foreign oil, the country is highly dependent on foreign sources of natural gas and electricity and is the largest energy importer among the G8. At St. Petersburg, the Italian government can be expected to support energy security initiatives that promote the diversification of supply sources, improvements in efficiency (particularly in coal production) and research and development into renewable sources of energy. Also, having recently forged an agreement with the Russian government to open their respective energy markets to one another, the Italian government can be expected to support the Russian government's call for greater interdependence among states.

Compiled by:
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¹⁷¹ Energy Policies of IEA Countries: Italy, International Energy Agency (Paris) 2003. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.
<http://www.iea.org/textbase/nppdf/free/2000/italy2003.pdf>

Japan

Japan is dependent on foreign sources for over 80% of its primary energy supply.¹⁷² As such, ensuring energy security is a crucial issue. Over the past number of years, Japan has achieved a high level of compliance in terms of their G8 commitments in the fields relating to energy security. In both the 2003 and 2004 Evian and Sea Island Compliance reports, Japan achieved +1 scores. These reflected Japan's dedication to achieving their commitments on the world stage.

Energy Supplies

Japan imports virtually all of its crude energy supplies and is the world's second-largest importer of oil after the United States. Japan's energy consumption by source stands at: 49% oil, 19% coal, 13% natural gas, 13% nuclear power, 3% hydroelectric power, 0.1% geothermal power, and 2% new energy.¹⁷³ According to Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), 92% of Japan's oil supply is imported from Middle Eastern nations including Saudi Arabia (34.4%), the United Arab Emirates (23.3%), Iran (12.8%), Qatar (8.7%), and Kuwait (7.5%).¹⁷⁴

Due in large part to the two oil crises that occurred in the 1970s, Japan developed the Petroleum Stockpiling Law which requires all private oil companies to hold the equivalent of 77 days of refined products consumption. As a member of the International Energy Agency (IEA), Japan also maintains a state stockpile of 92 days' supplies, for a total of almost 6 months of oil supplies under current domestic consumption.¹⁷⁵ This gives Japan the largest stockpile in the world, in terms of how long reserves would power the country.

In April of 2004 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated six principles that would guide its energy-related diplomacy. They were: maintaining and enhancing emergency response measures; maintaining and enhancing friendly relations with Middle East countries, other energy producing countries, and countries along international shipping lanes; diversification of sources of energy supply; to diversify sources of oil supply; diversification of energy sources; and, promoting energy saving, efficient use of energy, development and use of alternative energy and response to environmental issues approaches to creating an environment for the enhancement of global energy security.¹⁷⁶

Energy Policy

Japan's 2004 Basic Energy Policy Law emphasizes an increased use of alternatives to oil while retaining nuclear energy as a core energy supply and the application of free market principles.¹⁷⁷ These goals are in line with Japan's G8 commitments, such as those outlined in the document "Gleneagles Plan of Action: Climate Change, Clean Energy, and Sustainable Development". Some of the initiatives in this document include the diversification of the energy supply mix, the need to promote energy efficiency and conservation, and to accelerate deployment of cleaner energy technologies.¹⁷⁸

According to the "FY 2006 Economic and Industrial Policy: Key Points" document published by the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan intends to establish and implement a

¹⁷² Strategy and Approaches of Japan's Energy Diplomacy, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) April 2004. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/energy/diplomacy.html>

¹⁷³ Energy in Japan 2005, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo). Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/topics/energy2005E.pdf>

¹⁷⁴ November 2005 Preliminary Report on Petroleum Statistics, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 28 December 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.meti.go.jp/english/statistics/downloadfiles/h2j581011e.xls>

¹⁷⁵ The Oil Situation after the Attack on Iraq, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy (Tokyo) 21 March 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/english/energy/japan/oilinfo.html>

¹⁷⁶ Strategy and Approaches of Japan's Energy Diplomacy, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) April 2004. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/energy/diplomacy.html>

¹⁷⁷ Summary of Comments Made at a Press Conference by Yousaku Fuji, FEPC Chairman, on June 13, 2003, Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan, 13 June 2006. Date of Access: 7 July 2006. <http://www.fepc.or.jp/english/news/conf/200306.html>

¹⁷⁸ Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/climatechange.html>

comprehensive energy strategy. Initiatives include promotion of energy conservation in Japan and across Asia, development of new energy sources, promotion of safety-guaranteed nuclear power, promotion of fuel source diversification in the transportation sector, promotion of independent development of oil and natural gas in strategic areas such as Russia, diversification of energy supply sources, and the introduction and enhancement of petroleum stockpiling systems and clean coal technology across Asia.¹⁷⁹

In effort to achieve these goals, METI has earmarked approximately ¥157.56 billion for energy conservation measures which include: review and extension of the existing tax system for promoting investment in energy supply-and-demand structure reform; the extension of a tax system for encouraging environmentally-friendly vehicles; the development of a promotional program for the introduction of high-efficiency water heaters; ensuring support programs for businesses that implement energy conservation measures; developing an energy conservation technology development program; and, a greening and streamlining promotion program for distribution and logistics.¹⁸⁰

Energy Security and the Environment

The Japanese government finances projects for a greener economy under the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), a division of METI. NEDO was established by the Japanese government in 1980 to develop new oil-alternative energy technologies. Following a number of reorganizations of the body, in 2003 NEDO was tasked with the responsibility for the development of R&D project planning and formation, project management and post-project technology evaluation functions for new energy and energy conservation technologies.¹⁸¹ NEDO had an annual operating budget of approximately US\$2.274 billion in the FY 2004 – of which US\$1.495 billion was designated for research and development.¹⁸²

Kyoto and Climate Change

As a leading signatory to the Kyoto protocol, Japan has been at the forefront of the movement against global warming. Japan plans to attain the 6% target reduction in greenhouse gas emissions under the Kyoto Protocol Target Achieving Plan from 2008 to 2012 compared with 1990 levels. At the 2003 Evian Summit, G8 members (with the exception of the United States) declared that “those of us who have ratified the Kyoto Protocol reaffirm their determination to see it in force”.¹⁸³ The Government of Japan has been noted by media outlets to be “determined to comply” with its Kyoto commitments and has publicly mulled imposing taxes to whip the world's second-largest economy into shape.¹⁸⁴

Japan's Climate Change Initiative from the 2005 Gleneagles G8 Summit has become the basis for the country's energy policy. Through it, Japan will contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals through the dissemination of energy-efficient and environment-friendly technologies to developing countries, and by assisting in the training of approximately 10,500 people in the fields relating to climate change. Additionally, the Clean Development Mechanism, which is an arrangement for international cooperation which provides incentives for companies in developed countries to diffuse sophisticated technologies to developing countries, will form part of the Japanese plan to meet the MDGs

¹⁷⁹ FY 2006 Economic and Industrial Policy: Key Points, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 August 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/FY2006keypoints.pdf>

¹⁸⁰ FY 2006 Economic and Industrial Policy: Key Points, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 August 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/index_metipolicies.html

¹⁸¹ What is NEDO? The New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (Tokyo). Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://www.nedo.go.jp/english/introducing/what.html>

¹⁸² Japanese firms embrace green technologies, Taipei Times (Tokyo) 6 April 2005. Date of Access: 30 June, 2006. <http://www.taipetimes.com/News/biz/archives/2005/04/06/2003249373>

¹⁸³ Chair's Summary, President Jacques Chirac, (Evian-les-Bains) 3 June 2003, Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/communiqu_e.html

¹⁸⁴ Japanese firms embrace green technologies, Taipei Times (Tokyo) 6 April 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://www.taipetimes.com/News/biz/archives/2005/04/06/2003249373>

along with the additional funding allocated to the IEA for the setting of international benchmarks for industrial sector energy-efficiency.¹⁸⁵

Japan is also actively promoting the development of new energy sources that are environmentally friendly and ensure a stable supply in the future. Japan is currently the number one producer of solar power in the world.¹⁸⁶ However, the cost of this energy is very high in comparison with conventional energy sources and can be limited by environmental conditions. Wind power generation facilities have also been established in Hokkaido and Tohoku, although the output of wind power is still generally unstable and could adversely affect the power grid.¹⁸⁷ METI has committed approximately ¥149.3 billion to the implementation of alternative energy into the existing Japanese power system, with emphasis placed on the development of biomass and solar energy.¹⁸⁸

Nuclear Power

Despite being the only country to have suffered the devastating effects of nuclear weapons in World War II, Japan has welcomed the peaceful use of nuclear technology. Nuclear power remains the core of Japan's energy supply. It accounts for over 34% of all electricity generated domestically by Japan's 54 reactors. Japan currently imports uranium from politically stable countries such as Canada (32%) and Australia (22%). Radioactive waste from Japan's reactors is disposed locally at the Low-level Radioactive Waste Disposal Center.¹⁸⁹ On 11 October 2005, the government approved the Japan Atomic Energy Commission's "Framework for Nuclear Energy Policy" as a basic principle for Japan's nuclear energy policy for the next decade.¹⁹⁰

There has, however, been growing concern about nuclear safety in Japan. In 2002, internal investigations at the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) revealed misconduct regarding the concealment of cracks in nuclear reactors and falsification of inspection and maintenance records.¹⁹¹ Another accident occurred on 9 August 2004 in the village of Mihama when 4 people were killed and 10 injured by sprays of superheated steam at a nuclear plant operated by Kansai Electric Power. Many of Japan's nuclear plants are over 30 years old, thus increasing their maintenance and inspection costs. There have also been concerns about Japan's plans to separate and stockpile up to 8 tonnes of plutonium, enough to build 1,000 nuclear bombs, at its Rokkasho nuclear reprocessing plant.¹⁹² In acknowledgement of these growing concerns, in 2006 METI has committed ¥36.66 billion to strengthen nuclear safety measures for aging reactors while improving public relations activities towards nuclear power safety.¹⁹³ METI has also committed to further promote the establishment of good community relations in regions where nuclear facilities are located, as well as a steady nuclear fuel cycle. METI will also continue to promote nuclear power – which has a long investment return period – as a major source of power generation, including replacement of old reactors, through the development of an environment conducive to nuclear power generation investment.¹⁹⁴

¹⁸⁵ G8 Gleneagles 2005: Japan's Climate Change Initiative, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6-8 July 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/environment/warm/cop/initiative.pdf>

¹⁸⁶ Japanese firms embrace green technologies, Taipei Times (Tokyo) 6 April 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006.

<http://www.taipetimes.com/News/biz/archives/2005/04/06/2003249373>

¹⁸⁷ "Energy In Japan: 2005", Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo). Date of Access: 21 May 2006.

<http://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/topics/energy2005E.pdf>.

¹⁸⁸ FY 2006 Economic and Industrial Policy: Key Points, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 August 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/index_metipolicies.html

¹⁸⁹ Energy in Japan 2005, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo). Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.enecho.meti.go.jp/topics/energy2005E.pdf>.

¹⁹⁰ Framework for Nuclear Energy Policy, Japan Atomic Energy Commission, 11 October 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006.

http://aec.jst.go.jp/jicst/NC/tyoki/taikou/kettei/eng_ver.pdf.

¹⁹¹ Report on the Investigation into Inspection and Maintenance Problems at TEPCO's Nuclear Power Plants, pointed out by GE, TEPCO Press Release, 17 September 2002. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.tepco.co.jp/en/press/corp-com/release/02091701-e.html>.

¹⁹² Uncorking the plutonium (energy) genie, Asia Times (Tokyo) 10 May 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006.

<http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Japan/GE10Dh01.html>.

¹⁹³ FY 2006 Economic and Industrial Policy: Key Points, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 August 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/index_metipolicies.html

¹⁹⁴ FY 2006 Economic and Industrial Policy: Key Points, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Tokyo) 29 August 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.meti.go.jp/english/policy/index_metipolicies.html

Pursuant to Japan's stated policy of promoting the use of nuclear energy for power generation, on 27 February 2006, the Government of Japan and the European Atomic Energy Community signed an agreement for the Co-operation in the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy. The Agreement, "which provides a new framework for Japan-EURATOM co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, stipulates that the nuclear material, equipment and non-nuclear material subject to this Agreement should be used for peaceful and non-explosive purposes only, and that the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), appropriate physical protection and other measures should be applied to nuclear material. The Agreement also includes regulation for the retransfer of nuclear material, equipment and non-nuclear material subject to this Agreement beyond the territorial jurisdiction. The conclusion of this Agreement ensures the promotion of Japan-EURATOM co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy on a more stable foundation. Japan regards the conclusion as meaningful in view of the maintenance and enhancement of friendly and co-operative relations with EURATOM and its Member States."¹⁹⁵

Oil Supply Diversity

In order to reduce its heavy reliance in oil from the Middle East, Japan has been scouring the world for alternative oil supplies. As a result, there has been furious competition between Japan and China for access to oil from Russia, which is the world's second biggest oil exporter after Saudi Arabia. A system of oil pipelines from the Siberian oilfields to the Russia's Pacific coast port of Nakhodka is currently under construction and would service both Japan and China's oil demands. In his first visit to Japan in five years, Russian President Vladimir Putin recently renewed his country's commitment to build the pipeline to the Pacific coast to service the entire Asia-Pacific region, including Japan.¹⁹⁶

In 19 February 2004, Japan and Iran signed a basic agreement for a Japanese consortium to develop a major oil field in southwestern Iran, despite opposition from the US government due to Iran's suspected nuclear weapons development program. The Azadegan field will be the largest oil field developed by Japan, and construction is expected to begin in 2006.¹⁹⁷

According to a recent article by the Wall Street Journal, Japan has a new government energy strategy, due to be finalized in the coming weeks, which calls for Japan to draw about 40% of its imported oil from assets owned by Japanese companies by 2030, compared to just 15% today.¹⁹⁸ In order to accomplish this, the Japanese government has designated its 29%-owned flagship oil and gas company, Inpex Holdings Inc., to invest and secure more energy supply around the world for Japan.¹⁹⁹

Iranian Nuclear Issue

When, in early January 2006, Iran removed the seals at the uranium enrichments-related facilities, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs noted their "deep regret" for the Iranian move to resume activities relating to the research and development of what is claimed to be a peaceful nuclear energy program; a move by Iran that was in disregard of the expressed concerns of the international community.²⁰⁰ Furthermore, Japan strongly called on Iran to "immediately cease the resumption of the research and

¹⁹⁵ Signing of Agreement for Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy between Japan and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM), The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 27 February 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/2/0227.html>

¹⁹⁶ Putin reassures Japan on pipeline, BBC News (London) 21 November 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/4455542.stm>.

¹⁹⁷ "Inpex pushes ahead with Iran oil field", Asahi Shimbun, 30 December 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.asahi.com/english/Herald-asahi/TKY200512300065.html>

¹⁹⁸ Japan Makes Push for Oil Abroad, The Wall Street Journal, 16 May 2006.

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB114773543244353508.html?mod=economy_secondary_stories_hs

¹⁹⁹ Japan Makes Push for Oil Abroad, The Wall Street Journal, 16 May 2006.

http://online.wsj.com/article/SB114773543244353508.html?mod=economy_secondary_stories_hs.

²⁰⁰ Statement by the Press Secretary/Director-General for Press and Public Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the Resumption of Uranium Enrichment-related Research and Development Activities by Iran, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 January 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/1/0110.html>

development activities and to implement sincerely all the requirements of the relevant IAEA Board of Governors Meeting resolutions including the suspension of all the uranium enrichment-related and reprocessing activities without exception.”²⁰¹

In a telephone conversation with the Russian Foreign Minister Sergi Larov, Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Taro Aso praised Russia’s “constructive involvement to resolve the matter by diplomatic means, and stressed the importance of tenaciously continuing dialogue with Iran.”²⁰² Pursuant to that conversation, in a 6 June 2006 telephone call with Iranian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Manuchehr Mottaki, Japanese Foreign Minister Aso, expressed the dedication of Japan to finding a peaceful and diplomatic solution to the Iranian nuclear Issue and noted that Iran “should not miss an opportunity to talk with the US”²⁰³ regarding the European Union proposal for a resolution to the issue. Mr. Aso also reiterated that “although no country denies Iran’s right to use nuclear power for peaceful purposes, Iran needs to suspend uranium enrichment to restore the confidence of the international community, in light of past developments.”²⁰⁴

Conclusion

As a major importer of oil and other energy sources, Japan is dedicated to following through on the G8 commitments to encourage energy efficiency, conservation, and diversification, while reducing negative impact on the environment. In addition, Japan is helping its Asian neighbours by encouraging oil stockpiling and clean energy technologies across Asia. By increasing its nuclear capacity and improving the safety of its nuclear reactors, Japan will reduce its reliance on imported fossil fuels in the future. Until then, Japan continues to search for other alternative oil supplies such as the Nakhodka oil pipeline from Russia and the Azadegan oilfield in Iran. As an important member of the G8, Japan continues to promote its goals of stable energy supplies and environmental protection.

Complied by:
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²⁰¹ Statement by the Press Secretary/Director-General for Press and Public Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the Resumption of Uranium Enrichment-related Research and Development Activities by Iran, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 10 January 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/1/0110.html>

²⁰² Telephone Conversation between Minister for Foreign Affairs Taro Aso and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 6 March 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/3/0306.html>

²⁰³ Telephone Conversation between the Foreign Ministers of Japan and Iran, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/6/0607-3.html>

²⁰⁴ Telephone Conversation between the Foreign Ministers of Japan and Iran, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 7 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/6/0607-3.html>

Russia

Despite a robust economic rate of growth of 6.7% per annum, Russian GDP per capita remains at a relatively low US\$9 800.²⁰⁵ Russia is among the world's leading energy exporters as it benefits from vast reserves of natural gas and oil. In a recent article, Anatoly Belyaev, an expert with the Agency of Humanitarian Technologies commented that Russia "...has 45% of the world's gas reserves, 13% of oil, 23% of coal, and 14% of uranium."²⁰⁶ He also stated that Russia accounts for 40% of the increase in global oil output.²⁰⁷ Russia is also a major emitter of greenhouse gases. It is currently responsible for about 6.4% of the world's total fossil fuel-based carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, ranking it third in the world behind the United States and China.²⁰⁸

Russia's role in the energy market and the Russian-Ukrainian "Gas Wars"

One of the Russian Government's primary objectives during its G8 Presidency is to develop a system of secure and reliable energy sources for the global economy. Due to its relative capabilities in this area, the Russian Government sees itself as a reliable energy supplier.²⁰⁹ Recently, Russian President Vladimir Putin boasted of Russia's status as a major player in the global energy market, and called on his country to "become the absolute leader in the world energy industry."²¹⁰

Russia's dispute with Ukraine over the price of natural gas exports earlier this year can be seen as a reminder to Western Europe of its reliance on Russian energy exports. Russia sought to increase the price of its exports to a level consistent with the market—an increase of approximately 400%. The situation was resolved when Gazprom, Russia's monopoly gas supplier to the West, relented and agreed to a new price that was double the old.

Europe reacted to the threat of reduced natural gas supplies from Russia by pursuing the development of alternate energy supplies, including liquefied natural gas (LNG), new pipelines from new supplier countries, and increasing the share of nuclear power in its overall energy mix.²¹¹ The gravity of the dispute brought several responses. Russian officials insisted that its dispute with the Ukraine issue was rooted in economics—the health of the Russian economy necessitated natural gas export prices at market prices.²¹² Other commentators, including Professor Joseph Nye of Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and Vladimir Pribylovsky, head of the Panorama Research Centre in Moscow, suggested that the freeze was simply retaliation against Ukraine for electing the pro-Western Viktor Yushchenko as President.²¹³

²⁰⁵ The World Factbook, Central Intelligence Agency, 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006.

www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/rs.html

²⁰⁶ Anatoly Belyaev, "President Putin advocates energy dialog with all world powers," RIA Novosti, Moscow, Mar 14, 2006.

²⁰⁷ Anatoly Belyaev, "President Putin advocates energy dialog with all world powers," RIA Novosti, Moscow, Mar 14, 2006

²⁰⁸ An Energy Summary of the Russian Federation, The Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum, 17 January 2006. Date of Access: <http://www.cslforum.org/russia.htm>

²⁰⁹ Moscow seeks to wield petro-power as political tool, Financial Times, 23 December 2005.

²¹⁰ Putin Says Russia Must Become 'absolute leader in world energy industry', BBC Monitoring Newsfile report on Russia (London) 22 December 2005. Date of Access: 3 July 2006.

<http://pgasb.pgarchiver.com/bbcmonitoring/945997311.html?did=945997311&FMT=ABS&FMTS=FT&date=Dec+22%2C+2005&author=&pub=BBC+Monitoring+Newsfile&desc=Putin+says+Russia+must+become+%22absolute+leader+in+world+energy+industry%22>

²¹¹ Europe's press urges more energy independence amid Russian 'gas war', Agence France Presse, 3 January 2006; FOCUS Russia gas showdown to encourage Europe to diversify supply sources, AFX International Focus, 3 January 2006; Dispute likely to boost arguments for nuclear power, Financial Times, 3 January 2006; The Kremlin tightens the energy screw—Europe must reduce dependence on Russian gas, Financial Times, 3 January 2006; The Skeptic: Putin Triggers Europe's Nuclear Option, Dow Jones, 3 January 2006.

²¹² According to an article by Yevgeniy Anisimov in the *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, 28 Feb 2006, as quoted in "Russian Energy Empire Grows as Supplies Dwindle, West Worried, Both Sides React," *BBC Monitoring Former Soviet Union*, 6 Mar 2006, "...it is better to appear as the victims of Russia's 'imperial ambitions' than admit to being countries, which do not wish to pay a market price for their energy supplies."

²¹³ Quoted in: Europe Queries Energy Dependence on Moscow Russia at the G8's Helm, Monday Morning (Beirut), 12 January 2006; Russia's Natural Gas Threat is a Double-Edged Sword, Daily Star (Beirut), 24 January 2006.

At a March 2006 G8 Conference on Energy in Moscow, the Deputy CEO of Gazprom, Alexander Medvedev, stated that “EU dependency [on Russian gas] will only increase...There are only four sources of gas in the world [to supply Europe]: Qatar, Iran, Algeria and Russia.”²¹⁴ He then implied that Russia was the only stable supplier of the four.

This same conference exposed fundamental differences among G8 members, to say nothing of the wider world, with respect to the definition of “energy security”. US Energy Secretary David Sampson stressed the role of markets rather than governments in allocating capital, as well as the value of a diverse set of energy sources to ensure security of supply.²¹⁵ Secretary Sampson advocated for American businesses in the development of the new Russian Shtockman gas field. China stated its approach will be to increase efficiency; the government’s target is to keep energy demand growth at least 20% below the overall rate of economic growth.²¹⁶ Europe wants Russia to open up its pipeline network to other suppliers besides Gazprom in order to secure alternative sources of supply. The French government, in particular, has called on Russia to ratify the “Energy Charter”, which Russia signed over a decade ago but has not ratified.²¹⁷ The Energy Charter was drafted in the early 1990’s and has been ratified by all EU members, as well as some 50 other states.²¹⁸ Its focus is on promoting free market relations in the energy sector, and calls for: non-discrimination in the access of other companies and countries to a national pipeline system; settlement of price disputes by arbitration; and, domestic gas prices should be market-driven and not artificially low, which keeps foreign competition out.

Russia’s position on “energy security” is somewhat at odds with those of its trading partners. In contrast to China’s focus on efficiency, the Russian government defines security in terms of increased supply, which it will happily provide, rather than in reduced demand. Further, it distrusts the free market approach espoused by the Europeans and Americans to meet energy needs, and its leaders argue that the energy market must be managed.²¹⁹ In particular, the Energy Charter, which Russia has signed but not yet ratified, sits awkwardly with Russia, owing largely to its complex politico-economic relations with former Soviet states.²²⁰ Additionally, the Russian government seeks to manage its own energy relations with the West and prefers not to leave important topics such as price to the whims of a fluctuating global market. Market-driven prices of Russian versus Central Asian gas would result in multi-billion dollar losses for Gazprom. Thus, the discussions between the Russians and the Europeans over the ratification of the Energy Charter are fraught with problems. Dr. Kolchin reported that Presidential Aide Igor Shuvalov said that Russia would refrain from ratifying the Energy Charter Treaty and would demand its amendment, whereas Industry and Energy Minister Viktor Khristenko took a more positive position by saying that Russia would ratify the treaty upon reaching a mutually acceptable agreement on transit issues with the Europeans.²²¹

Russian needs in the Energy Market

For Russia, energy security is inextricably linked with the need to manage unstable world markets. In February 2006, President Putin released a statement outlining Russian concerns regarding the instability of the world energy market. He stated that there should be a global energy strategy “...based on a long-term, reliable and environmentally sustainable energy supply at prices affordable to both the exporting countries and the consumers.”²²² At the above-mentioned G8 Energy Conference, several Russian speakers further outlined Russia’s part of the energy security equation. Alexander Shokhin, head of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, stated that Russia needed “guaranteed demand for its resources.”²²³ Similarly, Menno Grouvel, Senior Vice-President of the French oil company TOTAL, argued that importing countries should provide approximately half the required investment to expand

²¹⁴ Quoted in an article by Stephen Boykewich, “Russia Lays Out Energy Demands,” *Moscow Times*, 14 Mar 2006.

²¹⁵ Russia Lays Out Energy Demands, *Moscow Times*, (Moscow) 14 March 2006.

²¹⁶ Russia Gets No Consensus on Path to Energy Security, *Reuters*, 13 March 2006.

²¹⁷ Russia Gets No Consensus on Path to Energy Security, *Reuters*, 13 March 2006.

²¹⁸ Why Russia Refuses to Ratify Energy Charter, *RIA Novosti*, 7 April 2006.

²¹⁹ Russia Gets No Consensus on Path to Energy Security, *Reuters*, 13 March 2006.

²²⁰ Why Russia Refuses to Ratify Energy Charter, *RIA Novosti*, 7 April 2006.

²²¹ Why Russia Refuses to Ratify Energy Charter, *RIA Novosti*, 7 April 2006.

²²² Lighting the Path to Energy Security, *Wall Street Journal Asia*, 28 February 2006.

²²³ Russia Lays Out Energy Demands, *Moscow Times*, 14 March 2006.

Russian capacity to meet importers' demands, as approximately half of Russia's hydrocarbon production is exported.²²⁴ Finally, Sergei Kiriienko, the head of Rosatom, the Russian Atomic Energy Agency, emphasized the need for expanded use of nuclear power. He noted the uncertainty surrounding global petroleum reserves and that, "if the structure [of the world economy] does not change by 2030, we will have to discover seven or eight deposits the size of Saudi Arabia [to meet global energy needs]".²²⁵

The importance of the energy sector for Russia should not be underestimated. Historically, the country's economic prospects have been closely tied to movements in the hydrocarbon industry. According to former Russian government official Yegor Gaidar, a reformist economist and currently director of the Institute for the Economy in Transition, the cause of the collapse of the Soviet Union in the late 1980s was the "...six-fold monthly decrease in oil prices between 1985 and 1986".²²⁶ As a leading energy exporter with a large population and a complex economy, major shifts in the price of oil profoundly affect Russia.

The health of the Russian economy is tied to the buoyancy of the global energy market to such an extent that Russian and Western observers alike have noted that Russia's place in the G8 owes more to its abundant energy reserves than overall economic strength or democratic credentials.²²⁷ As Yevgeniy Anisimov, journalist for the Russian newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda, recently commented, "[i]f American or Europeans were in charge of our oil fields at present...none of the most powerful states in the world would take it into their head [sic] to pay heed to Russia." Hyperbolic his sentiments may be, but there is no denying the tremendous impact that the energy sector has on the Russian economy.

Nuclear energy and security

Russia is placing a high priority on the expansion of civilian nuclear power generation as part of its response to the growing insecurity of energy supplies. As part of the greater emphasis on civilian nuclear power, there are plans to build an additional 40 reactors over the next 20 years.

Furthermore, the Russian government is actively promoting the concept of a "limited life-cycle access" program to allow non-nuclear countries to benefit from nuclear power without increasing the risk of proliferation. In particular, the Russian government is proposing the establishment of several international, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)-monitored, nuclear fuel recycling centres. These centres would allow non-nuclear countries to gain the benefits of the peaceful use of nuclear technology without extending access to the technology for reprocessing spent fuel. The Russian government first advanced this proposal as a way to resolve the Iranian nuclear dilemma. Since the program's initial conception, Russia has recast it as a global solution.

Russia has long been seen as a source for concern with regard to nuclear security, both in terms of the safety of civilian nuclear power plants and the physical security of weapons-grade nuclear materials. On the other hand, it has generally cooperated with the West in improving security on both counts, provided the West subsidized the costs of such upgrades. Russia is a signatory to many multilateral agreements including the Shelter Initiative Plan (SIP), which seeks to permanently and safely contain the destroyed Chernobyl plant, and the Global Partnership (GP), which was established to deny terrorist groups access to weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Daniil Kobayakov and Vladimir A. Orlov, in a recent study conclude that the GP has had only limited success, except for the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program initiated by the US and Russia in the 1990s to dismantle nuclear weapons.²²⁸ This program has been highly successful, seeing the elimination of thousands of nuclear warheads in the two participant countries. The authors go on to comment that Russian President Vladimir Putin has been pushing for more aggressive action under the GP, especially in terms of nuclear submarine decommissioning and

²²⁴ Russia Lays Out Energy Demands, Moscow Times, 14 March 2006.

²²⁵ Russia Gets No Consensus on Path to Energy Security, Reuters, 13 March 2006.

²²⁶ Press Conference with Yegor Gaidar ... (Part I), Federal News Service, 17 January 2006.

²²⁷ Russia Moves to Stop Alarm Over Gas Supply, National Business Review, 17 February 2006; Russian Energy Empire Grows as Supplies Dwindle, West Worried, Both Sides React (London) BBC Monitoring Former Soviet Union, 6 March 2006.

²²⁸ Global Partnership - What's next?, PIR Center, April 2005. Date of Access: 28 June 2006.

<http://www.sgpproject.org/publications/KobayakovOrlovApril2005GPWhatIsNext.pdf>

chemical weapons plant dismantling, and he has been critical of other G8 countries which have been pushing for other priorities.

Recently, NATO criticized Russia for a lack of transparency with respect to its nuclear weapons stockpiles.²²⁹ However, Kobyakov and Orlov observe that, according to a report prepared for Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI) by the Harvard University's Project on Managing the Atom in May 2004, within the former Soviet Union, as of the end of fiscal year (FY) 2003, some 22% of some 600 tons of nuclear material outside of nuclear weapons, which is potentially vulnerable, had "comprehensive" (meeting US standards) security and accounting upgrades.²³⁰ An additional 21% of the material had initial "rapid" upgrades installed (such as, for example bricking the windows of a facility with nuclear materials, and building a fence around it). The effort was initially focusing on providing upgrades to sites that are more vulnerable and contain smaller quantities of nuclear material, thus the fraction of sites having received comprehensive upgrades is relatively higher to that of total amounts of material with upgrades and constitutes 70%. The authors conclude that the program is currently being held up because of a lack of increased funding to deal with the more difficult problems to be dealt with.

In February, President Putin announced that Russia had developed a new ballistic-weapon system that is capable of evading existing and proposed missile defense systems.²³¹ Owen Matthews, a writer for *Newsweek International*, believes that this development is less an offensive initiative than a credentialist once, as the Russian government seeks to maintain parity with the US. He argues that the system is still in its infancy and requires significant investments of time and money to render it operational. This Russian move, coupled with the US's recent refutation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty may lead to the "breakdown in the Cold War's systems of controlling weapons of mass destruction. The ABM Treaty is now history, but the more important Non-Proliferation Treaty of 1970 could go the same way." Matthews concludes that Russia and the US have contributed jointly to this worrisome trend.

Environment and the Kyoto Protocol

As the last major country to adhere to the Kyoto Protocol, Russia's involvement has been critical in its formal progress, facilitating its ratification and application earlier in 2005. Conversely, Russia has also been slow to move on the issue and at the recent COP11 (Conference of the Parties, session 11) meeting held in Montréal, Canada in December 2005, the Russian approach was decidedly obstructionist.²³² With a clear focus on increasing supplies of hydrocarbons to provide energy security, rather than reducing the world's demand, it is unsurprising that there have been no reported Russian initiatives in the field of alternative or renewable energy sources.

Since the Evian Summit in 2003, there have been a number of G8 initiatives in areas related to energy: climate change and sustainable development. The Evian Action Plan called for an International Conference on Renewable Energies to be held in Bonn in 2004. Although it had been reported that Russia would send two delegates²³³, the final list of national delegates included no one from Russia.²³⁴ This was very surprising, considering that even tiny countries sent at least one or two delegates. The Sea Island G8 Summit in 2004 declared G8 support for such initiatives as the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP), the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF) and the International Partnership for a Hydrogen Economy (IPHE).²³⁵ The REEEP is an association of private companies, NGOs and government agencies who are interested in renewable energy initiatives. There

²²⁹ NATO faults Russia for hindering efforts to secure nuclear material, *Chicago Tribune*, 21 December 2005.

²³⁰ Global Partnership - What's next?, PIR Center, April 2005. Date of Access: 28 June 2006.

<http://www.sqpproject.org/publications/KobyakovOrlovApril2005GPWhatnext.pdf>

²³¹ Russian Nukes Redux; Looking to Recapture Lost Glory, Moscow is Building a New Nuclear Warhead Designed to Evade U.S. Defenses, *Newsweek International*, 12 February 2006. The following discussion is also from this source.

²³² Europe Information, 14 December 2005; *Platts Commodity News*, 12 December 2005.

²³³ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report: Energy, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 28 May 2004. Date of Access: 28 June 2006.

http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/13-2003evian_energy.pdf

²³⁴ List of Participants, Renewables 2004. (Bonn) 27 July 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006.

<http://www.renewables2004.de/pdf/participants.pdf>

²³⁵ Science and Technology for Sustainable Development: "3r" Action Plan and Progress on Implementation, 2004 Sea Island (Sea Island) 10 June 2004. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/sd.html>

are over 1,000 currently. There are no clearly Russian independent organizations and no Russian governmental agencies on the membership list.²³⁶ The CSLF is funding a variety of projects to find ways to “sequester” (capture and store) CO₂ as a means to reduce greenhouse gases. Russia is a listed member of the organization, but is apparently not participating in any of the current projects.²³⁷ Russia is also a member of the IPHE, which is dedicated to the promotion of technology development and commercialization of hydrogen as an energy source.²³⁸ Finally, the Glen Eagles Summit called for support of, among other initiatives, the Methane to Markets Partnership, which creates programs to capture various sources of methane emissions and get them back into the energy network. Russia is a member and has shown leadership on this initiative by hosting a meeting in September, 2005, of the Methane to Markets Oil and Gas subcommittee in Tomsk, Russia.²³⁹ This meeting led to the adoption of an interim action plan for this area.

Conclusion

Overall, Russia’s track record, as detailed above, has been mixed. It is evident that in areas of primary concern, such as nuclear materials security, and hydrocarbon energy production, the Russians have been much more active. In other areas, their activity has been minimal or nonexistent. Of course, it should be remembered that, while Russia is a major energy supplier and long-term resource, its economy continues to struggle. Its GDP per capita at under US \$10,000, is far below those of its G8 partners, so it does not necessarily have the resources available to participate in all G8 initiatives. It is also, like most countries, well aware of its self interests, and is focused on promoting them in what it believes is the most effective manner.

**Compiled by:
Steve Williamson**

²³⁶ REEEP Organization Directory. Date of Access: 28 June 2006.

http://www.reeep.org/trampoline/submit?action=4&component=%24AlphabeticalIndex.%24ActionLink_0&page=OrganisationDirectoryPage&service=action&session=T

²³⁷ CSLF Projects, Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.csforum.org/projects.htm>

²³⁸ IPHE Partners, International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy. Date of Access: 28 June 2006.

<http://www.csforum.org/projects.htm>

²³⁹ Oil & Gas Subcommittee Action Plan Framework, Years 2 to 5, Methane to Markets Partnership, 5 December 2005. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www.methanetomarkets.org/events/2005/all/docs/presentations/day1/oilgas/oilgas_actionplan_12-6-05.pdf

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom is the largest producer of petroleum and natural gas in the European Union, and it has significant oil reserves in the North Sea. However, oil and natural gas production peaked in the late 1990s and have been declining steadily ever since. As of 2002, the UK energy demand was met with a variety of energy supplies. The largest, at 39%, was natural gas followed by oil at 35%, coal at 15%, nuclear at 9%, and a variety of other methods at 2%.²⁴⁰ The United Kingdom is facing a potential shortfall in energy supply in the near future, and many experts predict that the UK could become a net importer of energy by the end of this decade. While in the past they have been self-sufficient, the current UK demand for primary energy is growing at such a pace that they have already begun to import most of the coal used for power generation.²⁴¹ Domestically, “much of the UK’s economically viable deep mined coal is likely to be exhausted within ten years. By around 2006 [the UK] will also be a net importer of gas and by around 2010 of oil. By 2020 [the UK] could be dependent on imported energy for three quarters of [their] total primary energy needs.”²⁴² Understandably therefore, the UK’s energy security initiatives have focused on increasing domestic oil production, reducing domestic energy consumption, and investing in renewable energy sources. As such, within the UK government, it is the Department of Trade and Industry that is responsible for directing much of their energy policy.

In 2005, the UK produced 1.87 million barrels of oil per day (bpd), which is a 10% decline from 2004 and is 37% below the production peak in 1999, and consumed 1.8 million bpd. The UK has been a net exporter of crude oil since 1981. The UK also produced 3.6 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of natural gas, consumed 3.3 Tcf, and is a net exporter of 0.3 Tcf of natural gas.²⁴³

Energy Policy

In a 16 May, 2006 speech given to the CBI in London, an energy lobby group, Prime Minister Tony Blair emphasized the importance of the energy gap the United Kingdom will be facing in the coming decades. According to Blair, “By 2025, if current policy is unchanged, there will be a dramatic gap on our targets to reduce CO2 emissions; we will become heavily dependent on gas; and at the same time move from being 80/90%, self-reliant in gas to 80/90% dependent on foreign imports, mostly from the Middle East and Africa and Russia.”²⁴⁴ This fact, according to Blair, is forcing the issue of energy and energy security “back on the agenda with a vengeance.”²⁴⁵

The UK’s energy policy is outlined in the white paper entitled “Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy” which was presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry in February 2003.²⁴⁶ This document defines a long-term strategic vision for energy policy and outlines four goals: to commit the UK on a path to 60% reduction in its carbon dioxide emissions by 2050, to maintain the reliability of energy supplies, to promote competitive energy markets, and to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.

The UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC) conducted the G8 Workshop on Energy Research and Innovation at Oxford on 11-12 May 2005. The technical workshop was concerned with implementing the Evian Action Plan that committed G8 nations and their research organizations to compare and link

²⁴⁰ Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

²⁴¹ Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

²⁴² Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

²⁴³ United Kingdom Country Analysis Brief, Energy Information Administration (London) April 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/uk.html>

²⁴⁴ Address by Prime Minister Tony Blair to the CBI, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page9470.asp>

²⁴⁵ Address by Prime Minister Tony Blair to the CBI, Office of the Prime Minister (London) 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page9470.asp>

²⁴⁶ Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

programmes and priorities on clean energy. The participants established research priorities (affordable energy for all – particularly for developing countries, environment, economic efficiency, and security of energy supply) and recommended to raise the profile of the International Energy Agency (IEA) in the business community.²⁴⁷

On 12-13 October 2005, the UKERC conducted a multidisciplinary consensus meeting between 150 experts titled “UK Energy to 2050 – Challenges and Solutions” in order to provide the government with a feasible solution to the widely acknowledged problem of the UK’s looming energy gap. According to John Loughhead, Executive Director of UKERC, “up to the year 2050, fossil fuels will remain the dominant energy source – there really is no alternative...Without the need to reduce emissions, there would not be an energy gap in 2050.”²⁴⁸

Supply Security

With security of supply becoming and increasing concern to global energy markets, the UK government has increased its efforts in the field and has focused on the following priorities.²⁴⁹

- to work, multilaterally (through organizations such as the EU and International Energy Agency) and bilaterally to press for energy market reform and improved energy sector governance in major producing countries;
- to work, with others, for stable and competitive international oil and gas markets;
- to encourage political and economic stability in key producer countries;
- to improve take-up of renewable energy and a more efficient use of energy globally; and
- to enhance action to improve network resilience, mindful of the threat of terrorism.

In addition to these priorities, given the increasing and volatile price of oil supplies, the UK government has worked “with producing and consuming countries and relevant international organizations, such as the International Energy Agency, to promote greater transparency in oil markets and to improve the investment climate in oil producing countries.”²⁵⁰

Energy Security and the Environment

The Executive Summary of the 2004 “Our Energy Future” white paper notes that during the UK’s presidencies of the G8 and the EU, they made a powerful impact on climate change being at the forefront of discussions. “At the Gleneagles Summit in July 2005, the G8 leaders agreed that climate change was a serious and long-term challenge caused by human activity, and that urgent action was needed. The Gleneagles Action Plan, signed onto by both G8 leaders and their non-G8 counterparts, that launched dialogue on “climate change, clean energy and sustainable development was a major signal of renewed political will.”²⁵¹ Additionally, [t]he Montreal UN Conference in December 2005 was an important step forward for the whole international community.”²⁵² The UK also acknowledged that, while there was still a long way to go, they were committed “to play a leadership role in 2006 and beyond through the European Union, G8 and UN Framework Convention processes, and find ways to reach global agreement to action on the scale needed to avert dangerous climate change.”²⁵³

²⁴⁷ UKERC Publishes G8 Clean Energy Summary Report, UK Energy Research Centre (Oxford) 14 June 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.ukerc.ac.uk/content/view/75/67/>

²⁴⁸ Britain Facing Large Energy Gap, BBC News (London) 9 November 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/4423456.stm>

²⁴⁹ Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

²⁵⁰ Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

²⁵¹ Action to improve energy efficiency in the UK, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 3 May 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/energy/review/index.htm>

²⁵² Action to improve energy efficiency in the UK, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 3 May 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/energy/review/index.htm>

²⁵³ Action to improve energy efficiency in the UK, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 3 May 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/energy/review/index.htm>

As the first of a list of challenges facing the United Kingdom as outlined in their “Our Energy Future” white paper, the environment is noted as factor that will play a principle role in the development of the country’s energy policy. The white paper states the belief that “[c]limate change is real. Levels of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere, one of the main causes of climate change, have risen by more than a third since the industrial revolution and are now rising faster than ever before.”²⁵⁴ For the UK, this dramatic change is seen to likely result in an increase in the risk of droughts, a rise in sea levels causing a dramatic increased risk of flooding among others.²⁵⁵ Worldwide, the white paper notes, “the consequences could be devastating, especially in the developing world where many millions more people are likely to be exposed to the risk of disease, hunger and flooding. In addition, there is a risk of large scale changes such as the shut-down of the Gulf Stream or melting of the West Antarctic ice sheet, which although they may have a very low probability of occurring, would have dramatic consequences.”²⁵⁶

The UK has therefore acknowledged the direct link between the issues of energy security and environmental sustainability. In response to this, they have committed to work to establish a global consensus about the need for a change in energy policies and to take action to reduce world wide carbon emissions within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol. It is clear, therefore, that “a key objective of the UK’s foreign policy in future will be to secure international commitment to this ambition.”²⁵⁷

Reducing Carbon Emissions

The predicted shortfall in the UK’s energy supply could be alleviated with the use of gas- or coal-fired power stations. However, the UK is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions under the European Large Combustion Plant Directive, its obligations as a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol, and its climate change commitments at previous G8 summits. The government of the UK had committed to cut the UK’s carbon dioxide emissions by 60 per cent by 2050, with real progress by 2020. The UK also remains committed to its Kyoto protocol commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5 per cent below 1990 levels by 2008-2012.²⁵⁸ In addition to their Kyoto commitments, the UK also has two national goals to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. “The Energy White Paper set out a national goal to move towards a 20 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions below 1990 levels by 2010. The Energy White Paper also committed to putting [the UK] on the path to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by some 60 per cent by about 2050, with real progress by 2020. Emissions of carbon dioxide for 2004 are provisionally estimated to have been about 4.2 per cent lower than in 1990 and are projected to be 14 below by 2010.”²⁵⁹

Renewable Energy Capacity

As a principle means by which to encourage the development of renewable energy capacity, the UK government introduced the Renewables Obligation plan in 2002. The plan requires licensed electricity suppliers to source a specific and annually increasing percentage of the electricity they supply from renewable sources. The current target is 5.5% for 2005/06 rising to 15.4% by 2015/16.²⁶⁰

²⁵⁴ Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

²⁵⁵ Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

²⁵⁶ Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

²⁵⁷ Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy, Department of Trade & Industry (London) February 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-policy/energy-white-paper/page21223.html>

²⁵⁸ Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

²⁵⁹ Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

²⁶⁰ What is the Renewables Obligation? Department of Trade and Industry (London). Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/energy-sources/renewables/policy/renewables-obligation/what-is-renewables-obligation/page15633.html>

As a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol, the UK is aiming to meet its target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% by 2012. The UK is responsible for only 2% of global emissions of greenhouse gases, while the G8 accounts for about half of global emissions. In his speech at the G8 Energy and Environment Ministerial Roundtable in London on 15 March 2005, Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown outlined the UK's market-based policies designed to stimulate energy efficiency and to encourage the development of low-cost renewable sources of energy supply. Among these is the Climate Change Levy (CCL) which is a flat tax on energy use by the suppliers of the fuel or electricity. Introduced in 2002, the UK Emissions Trading Scheme (UKETS) is the world's first economy-wide greenhouse gases trading scheme and has resulted in significant emissions reductions. Minister Brown further stated that "in making climate change a key priority of the UK's Presidency of the EU in the second half of this year, I want the energy efficiency and productivity of the European economy to be a principal focus".²⁶¹

Nuclear Power

Due in part to the large increases in energy prices, Prime Minister Blair launched a review of Britain's nuclear energy policy on 21 November 2005 and emphasized the possibility of building a new generation of nuclear power plants. He said that wind, wave, and solar power would never match the energy capacity of the aging coal-fired and nuclear plants that are set to close by the end of the year 2020.²⁶² These plants currently generate over a third of Britain's electricity supply, and Prime Minister Blair warned that "by around 2020 the UK is likely to have seen decommissioning of coal and nuclear plants that together generate over 30% of today's electricity supply...some of this will be replaced by renewables, but not all of it can."²⁶³ The review launched by Blair will be led by Energy Minister Malcolm Wicks, and a new energy policy statement is expected in the early summer of 2006.

In a 29 November 2005 speech by the Prime Minister at the Confederation of British Industry Conference, nuclear energy was again being emphasized by Blair as a desirable alternative to close the impending energy gap in the UK. However, Mr. Blair's speech was interrupted by protesters from Greenpeace, who argued against the nuclear option because of the environmental impact of hazardous nuclear waste and potential nuclear catastrophes.²⁶⁴ Furthermore, while those in government stress the cost effectiveness of increasing the UK's dependence on nuclear energy, many, including Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy, argue that the cost of maintaining or decommissioning the existing plants would actually be quite extensive, upwards of £56 billion,²⁶⁵ with estimates from the British Nuclear Decommissioning Authority closer to £70 billion.²⁶⁶ Regardless of the controversy, Prime Minister Blair seems convinced of the need to a turn to nuclear energy as at least a partial solution to the growing energy gap facing the UK.²⁶⁷ Thus, while a decision on whether to incorporate nuclear power is yet to be announced, it seems likely that nuclear power will be needed if the UK is to meet both its environmental commitments and energy needs of the not-so-distant future. With a majority of EU leaders in agreement, the UK is certainly not alone in its desire to (re)turn to nuclear energy as a source of energy and as a means by which they can reduce Europe's dependence on overseas energy supplies.²⁶⁸

²⁶¹ Speech by the Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, at the Energy and Environment Ministerial Roundtable, G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 15 March 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/environment/env_brown050315.htm.

²⁶² Blair Says Energy Review to Consider Nuclear Option, Bloomberg, 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=10000102&sid=aDI_PNC1javs&refer=uk

²⁶³ Nuclear Protest Hits Blair Speech, BBC News (London) 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/4478946.stm

²⁶⁴ Nuclear Protest Hits Blair Speech, BBC News (London) 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/4478946.stm

²⁶⁵ Blair opens new nuclear options, BBC News International Edition (London) 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/politics/4481242.stm

²⁶⁶ Nuclear clean-up 'to cost £70bn, BBC News (London) 30 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4859980.stm>

²⁶⁷ PM 'convinced' on nuclear future, BBC News (London) 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4454468.stm>

²⁶⁸ Most EU leaders back reviving nuclear power, The Guardian UK Edition (London) 27 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. <http://business.guardian.co.uk/story/0,,1740187,00.html?gusrc=rss>

Energy Efficiency

The 2002 White Paper on Energy identifies energy efficiency as one of the critical means by which additional energy policies – a reduction of carbon emissions, for example – will be met in time.²⁶⁹ The UK government estimates that the introduction of increasingly energy efficient technologies into the economy will produce the following four results, it will: mitigate climate change, strengthen energy security, eliminate fuel poverty, and improve economic competitiveness.²⁷⁰ In addition to these, it believes that these results will save both the industrial and private sectors approximately £3 billion per year on energy bills.²⁷¹ In order to accomplish this goal, in 2004 the UK introduced the Energy Efficiency Commitment (EEC), effective from 2005 to 2011. This commitment, while subject to review in 2007, is anticipated to lead to investment of over £2 billion, saving businesses and individuals £4 billion from their bills to 2020.²⁷² Among a wide array of initiatives, the UK government has committed £20 million to support technological innovation in energy efficient technology; £2.5 million for the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, an agreement that generates international cooperation and is currently funding over 260 projects in 60 countries worldwide; and finally, DEFRA had announced £12 million Climate Change Communications initiative set to be implemented from 2004-2007 focused on changing the public's attitude towards climate change.²⁷³

Conclusion

In summary, the United Kingdom is taking a leadership role within the European Union in order to follow through on the energy security commitments by the G8 members. While the UK is in a comfortable position because of its significant oil reserves in the North Sea, it recognizes the need to find alternative energy sources for both the benefits reaped in supply security and with regards to the environment. While levels of oil and natural gas production are in decline, thus threatening a potential energy shortfall, the UK is adopting policies that will work to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels by exploring alternative sources of energy.

Compiled by:
Ray Acayan

²⁶⁹ Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

²⁷⁰ Action to improve energy efficiency in the UK, Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (London) 3 May 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/energy/review/index.htm>

²⁷¹ Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

²⁷² Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

²⁷³ Creating a Low Carbon Economy: Second Annual Report on the Implementation of the Energy White Paper, Department of Industry and Trade (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file10726.pdf>

United States

The US is the world's largest consumer of energy resources, importing a considerable proportion of its petroleum energy supplies from Canada and OPEC members. According to the Energy Information Administration, the energy mix in the United States consists of petroleum (41%), natural gas (23%), coal (22%), nuclear (8%) and others (6%). In 2005, the United States consumed 20.8 million barrels of oil per day (bpd) while producing 5.4 million bpd. Net oil imports were 12.2 million bpd, or 59% of total consumption. The top sources of US crude oil imports were Canada (13.2%), Mexico (13.0%), Saudi Arabia (12.1%), Venezuela (10.6%), and Nigeria (8.9%).²⁷⁴

Consequently, energy security is a serious, wide-ranging and often controversial topic in the United States. Because of this, most American energy security initiatives focus on pairing a reduction of domestic energy demand with increased domestic energy production with the goal of securing cheap energy sources from around the world to ease the transition

Energy Policy Act of 2005

To expand the capacity of the oil market, in their 2005 statement on Global Economy and Oil, the G8 members agreed that significant investments were needed in the exploration and production of oil, as well as energy infrastructure.²⁷⁵ Increasingly, for it to meet this goal, it became clear that the US needed a new national energy bill in order to allocate the substantial government resources required.

On 29 July 2005, US Congress passed the Energy Policy Act of 2005.²⁷⁶ Later, on 8 August 2005, US President George W. Bush signed the Act, also known as Energy Bill I, into law. The 1700-page Act establishes a comprehensive American national energy policy that addresses such issues as energy efficiency, incentive programs to encourage energy conservation, domestic renewable energy sources, regional diversification of sourcing and supply flows, extension of the daylight saving time, and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates the total cost of this national energy plan at approximately US\$12.3 billion by the year 2015.²⁷⁷

Despite these measures, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the price hikes that followed, further exposed the vulnerability of American refineries in the Gulf of Mexico. In October 2005, Congress passed a second bill, Gasoline for America's Security Act of 2005,²⁷⁸ or Energy Bill II. The Act aimed to address American vulnerabilities through the expansion of refining capacity and relaxation of environmental protection standards.

Alternative Energy Sources

The United States has identified several domestic sources of renewable energy, including fuel cell and clean coal technologies, solar and wind energy technologies, biomass and geothermal energy, and oil shale and tar sands development.

Canada's oil sands were also identified as a secure foreign energy source for the United States. In July 2005, on a tour of the Suncor oil sands facility, US Treasury Secretary John Snow remarked that "to have our closest ally, Canada, with these resources available, with a natural market in the United States, it's a huge contributor to energy security for North America". He also stated his belief that Canadian reserves

²⁷⁴ United States: Energy Overview, Energy Information Administration. (Washington D.C.). Date of Access: 21 May 2006.

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/cabs/Usa/Profile.html>

²⁷⁵ Global Economy and Oil, G8 Gleneagles 2005 (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/globaleconomy.pdf>

²⁷⁶ Energy Policy Act of 2005, 8 August 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=109_cong_public_laws&docid=f:publ058.109.pdf

²⁷⁷ CBO letter to Hon. Joe Barton, Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce, 27 July 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.cbo.gov/showdoc.cfm?index=6581&sequence=0>

²⁷⁸ Gasoline for America's Security Act of 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006.

<http://www.govtrack.us/data/us/bills.text/109/h3893.pdf>

might potentially outnumber those in Saudi Arabia.²⁷⁹ Oil sands development is becoming an increasingly expensive process, however, and relies heavily on natural gas, the price of which nearly trebled in 2005.

The rising cost of fossil fuels has helped spur a renaissance in the nuclear energy industry. In the United States, nuclear power provides roughly 20% of the electricity with 103 US commercial nuclear generating units currently in operation.²⁸⁰ The largest proportion of the uranium fuel supply comes mainly from the de-enrichment of nuclear weapons (“disarmament uranium”), while the remainder is supplied through the secondary market. In 2005, due to the growing worldwide demand for nuclear energy, the market price for uranium increased by 25%.²⁸¹

Although the United States recognizes the need to reduce its dependency on foreign energy sources, there is considerable controversy over the course of action required to achieve this goal.

In a recent article in *World Energy* magazine, Abdallah Jum'ah, President and CEO of Saudi Aramco, commented that “we cannot risk the future on energy sources that contribute only modestly or that are prohibitively expensive and lack robust and reliable production and distribution systems”. He believes that due to the abundance of fossil fuels and the size and scope of the global hydrocarbon infrastructure, “petroleum will remain the bedrock of the world’s energy supplies for the foreseeable future”.²⁸² Similarly, after releasing its third quarter earnings report in October 2005, Exxon Mobile said that it had no plans to invest any of its earnings in developing alternative or renewable energy.²⁸³

On 31 January 2006, in his State of the Union address, US President George W. Bush outlined the Advanced Energy Initiative to help break America’s dependence on foreign sources of energy. In his address the President set a national goal of replacing more than 75% of oil imports from the Middle East by 2025.

For the 2007 Budget year, the plan proposes US\$281 million to develop clean coal technologies, a new US\$148 million Solar America Initiative to accelerate the development of solar cells, US\$44 million for wind energy research, US\$150 million to develop bio-based transportation fuels from agricultural products such as wood chips or stalk grass, US\$30 million for the development of battery technologies for hybrid vehicles and US\$289 million to accelerate the development of hydrogen fuel cells.²⁸⁴

Peak Oil Theory

In 1956, the geophysicist Marion King Hubbert correctly predicted that American oil production would peak sometime between 1966 and 1972. He made his bold prediction by analyzing the quantity of oil in existing reserves, the number and size of new discoveries, and knowledge of production profiles of producing oil wells.

Conducting similar analyses on the world oil supply, individuals such as investment banker and presidential adviser Matthew Simmons predicted that the global “Hubbert’s Peak” would occur in 2005, followed by a precipitous fall.²⁸⁵ By 2025, global oil production is expected to have declined 43% to 48 million bpd. This projected shortfall of almost 70 million bpd prompted several analysts, including Goldman Sachs researcher Arjun Murti and CIBC Chief Economist Jeff Rubin, to predict a “super spike”

²⁷⁹ Snow Lauds Canada’s Oil Sands Projects, Associated Press, 9 July 2005. Date of Access: 21 December 2005. <http://www.forbes.com/associatedpress/feeds/ap/2005/07/09/ap2130349.html>.

²⁸⁰ U.S. Nuclear Generation of Electricity, Energy Information Administration. (Washington D.C.). Date Accessed: 21 May 2006. http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/nuclear/page/nuc_generation/gensum.html.

²⁸¹ The Ux Consulting company, Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.uxc.com>

²⁸² Rising to the Challenge: Securing the Energy Future, Abdallah S. Jum’ah, President and CEO, Saudi Aramco, *World Energy* magazine, Vol. 8 No. 1. Date of Access: 21 December 2005. http://www.worldenergysource.com/articles/pdf/jumah_WE_v8n1.pdf.

²⁸³ Alternate Energy Not In Cards at ExxonMobil, USA Today, 28 October 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/2005-10-27-oil-invest-usat_x.htm.

²⁸⁴ State of the Union: The Advanced Energy Initiative, White House Office of the Press Secretary, 31 January 2006. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/01/20060131-6.html>

²⁸⁵ Address by at the Deloitte 2005 Oil and Gas Conference in Houston, Texas (Houston) 7 December 2005. Date of Access: 2 May 2005. <http://www.simmonsco-intl.com/files/Deloitte%202005%20Oil%20and%20Gas%20Conference.pdf>

in oil prices of up to \$100-\$120 per barrel in the next few years.²⁸⁶ According to Eric Sprott of Sprott Asset Management, “demand for oil is so inelastic that its rising price has done nothing to slow demand in the last two years. There are simply no alternatives to energy.”²⁸⁷

It should be noted, however, that there are many who disagree with the Peak Oil Theory, pointing to the untapped energy sources on the east and west coasts of North America, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in northeast Alaska and the Canadian oil sands. Much of the uncertainty exists due to the opaque and unreliable information on oil production and supplies in Saudi Arabia and other OPEC countries. The G8 has identified this problem in the past and encourages increased market transparency and standardized reporting between oil producers, oil consumers and oil companies.

Increasingly, the rapid industrialization of China and India has exerted upward pressure on global energy demand. As a result, the proliferation of nuclear energy is considered a viable option. This move, however, sharply focuses the links between nuclear proliferation and energy security.

Despite these security risks, and due to the abundance of energy generated by nuclear power plants, nuclear energy is currently the most promising solution for energy thirsty markets. Illustrative of this concern is North Korea and Iran’s demonstrations of the relative ease with which countries can enrich spent uranium fuel from nuclear reactors for use in nuclear weapons. Moreover, nuclear reactors are increasingly vulnerable to terrorist attack. The fundamental challenge lies in the distribution of safe nuclear reactors to the world community in order to satisfy global demand without inadvertently sparking proliferation of nuclear weapons.

Conclusion

The United States has made significant progress on its energy security initiatives. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the Advanced Energy Initiative are steps in the right direction and focus government resources toward decreasing America’s dependence on foreign energy sources and fossil fuels.

Compiled by:
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²⁸⁶ Not Just a Spike, CIBC World Markets, 13 April 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006.

http://research.cibcwm.com/economic_public/download/occ_53.pdf.

²⁸⁷ Peak Oil – Are We There Yet? Markets at a Glance, Sprott Asset Management, 18 April 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://sprott.com/pdf/marketsataglance/04-18-2005.pdf>.

The G8 and Global Health: Introduction

The G8 member states' commitment to protecting public health has evolved from a narrow focus on domestic health issues to a sustained commitment to multilateral collaboration in tackling the global threat of major infectious diseases.²⁸⁸ The prioritization of global health issues on the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit agenda solidifies the recognition among G8 members of the impossibility of tackling infectious diseases on a solely national or regional scale.

A global approach to halting the spread of communicable diseases first appeared on the then G7 agenda at the 1987 Venice Summit, which produced the first official acknowledgement of the global vulnerability to HIV/AIDS.²⁸⁹ During the 1990s, the G8's attention turned increasingly towards a multi-faceted, cross-sectoral approach to global health governance, with a focus on the particular vulnerability of developing states.²⁹⁰ Since committing to fighting infectious disease on a global scale through 'surveillance, prevention, medicine and vaccine research' at the 1997 Denver Summit,²⁹¹ G8 health initiatives have shifted from intermittent efforts to address specific crises to an effort to create sustainable healthcare infrastructure in developing countries.

At the turn of the century, the G8 redirected its attention and resources towards becoming a full partner in multilateral efforts to control infectious diseases on a global scale. This new role was initiated in Okinawa in 2000, where G8 leaders recognized the urgent need to 'pool global efforts to fight' HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB), and malaria.²⁹² The following year in Genoa, the G8 institutionalized this commitment with the creation of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The Global Fund represents a collaborative effort between national governments, civil society, and the private sector to eradicate three diseases with staggering infection and fatality rates. Each year, nearly 2 million people lose their lives to TB,²⁹³ 1 million people die of malaria annually;²⁹⁴ and in 2005, an estimated 38.6 million people worldwide were living with HIV/AIDS.²⁹⁵ Since its foundation, the Global Fund has committed US\$5.4 billion in 131 countries in a coordinated effort to eradicate these deadly infections; US\$3.6 billion of the funds disbursed were contributed by G8 member states.²⁹⁶ In 2004, the G8 cemented its commitment to tackling infectious diseases through research and prevention, with the creation of the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise,²⁹⁷ an alliance of independent organizations committed to sharing knowledge and resources to pursue more efficiently the development of an HIV vaccination. At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 member states renewed their focus on protecting public health in the most vulnerable communities with the adoption of the Africa Action Plan.²⁹⁸

The commitment to tackling 'forgotten' diseases which still claim lives in developing states is a permanent fixture on the G8 agenda. The G8 has been particularly successful in its collaboration with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) in the attempt to eradicate polio. Since 1988, G8 members have contributed over US\$2.4 billion to the GPEI.²⁹⁹ With 636 known cases of polio existing as of June 2006,

²⁸⁸ John Kirton and Jenevieve Mannell, The G8 and Global Health Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2005/kirton_waterloo2005.pdf

²⁸⁹ Fighting Infectious Diseases: G8 Response, Official Website of the G8 presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006 (Moscow) 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/g8role/>

²⁹⁰ John Kirton and Jenevieve Mannell, The G8 and Global Health Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2005/kirton_waterloo2005.pdf

²⁹¹ Fighting Infectious Diseases: G8 Response, Official Website of the G8 presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006 (Moscow) 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/g8role/>

²⁹² John Kirton and Jenevieve Mannell, The G8 and Global Health Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2005/kirton_waterloo2005.pdf

²⁹³ The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. www.theglobalfund.org

²⁹⁴ The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. www.theglobalfund.org

²⁹⁵ 2006 Report on the Global Aids Epidemic, UNAIDS (Geneva) May 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006.

http://data.unaids.org/pub/GlobalReport/2006/2006_GR_CH02_en.pdf

²⁹⁶ The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. www.theglobalfund.org

²⁹⁷ John Kirton and Jenevieve Mannell, The G8 and Global Health Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2005/kirton_waterloo2005.pdf

²⁹⁸ Fighting Infectious Diseases: G8 Response, Official Website of the G8 presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006 (Moscow) 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/g8role/>

²⁹⁹ Historical contributions to polio eradication, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) 12 December 2005. Date of Access: 1

G8 leaders remain committed to tackling this disease through financial investment in vaccination campaigns.³⁰⁰

The threat of a global influenza pandemic has led to increased efforts to coordinate a global network of surveillance, detection, prevention, and treatment of infectious diseases.³⁰¹ The commitment to tackling the spread of avian influenza, which has infected 228 humans in 10 countries as well as fowl in 34 countries,³⁰² represents a logical continuation of the G8's leadership in tackling global health threats in a collaborative, coordinated, and consultative manner. The establishment of the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza as a mechanism for concerted action has been supported by initiatives within G8 members to tackle the threat of avian influenza domestically.³⁰³ Several G8 member states have recently taken their commitments a step further by contributing resources towards tackling the threat of influenza and other epidemics in developing countries which have been devastated by natural disasters.^{304 305}

In line with the G8's commitment to fostering global dialogue and knowledge-sharing, on 28 April 2006 health ministers from the G8 countries and India, China, Mexico, Brazil and South Africa, and representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and UNAIDS met for the first time in Moscow. The health ministers' meeting confirmed that the G8's global health goals have grown to encompass an integrated network of initiatives for disease prevention, infrastructure development, access to treatment, and investment in research.³⁰⁶

The commitment of the G8 to institutionalizing and extending its bilateral and multilateral global health initiatives are signs of great progress, and G8 members have each shown a commendable level of commitment to achieving concrete results in the fight to protect public health on a global scale. Each member state has excelled in its contributions in some areas while falling short in others,³⁰⁷ but the aggregate result is that 'the G8 has emerged as an effective, high-performing centre of global health governance across the board.'³⁰⁸ All the same, G8 members must heed the warning that 'we have failed millions of people, not because we don't know what to do, but because we haven't done enough.'³⁰⁹ The proof of the G8's capacity to achieve effective results through concerted action brings with it the responsibility to step up individual and collective efforts to find more innovative methods of achieving the G8's ambitious global health goals.

By: Adele Cassola

July 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/poliodonors.asp>

300 Statement of G8 Health Ministers, G8 Summit 2006 (Moscow) 28 April 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/healthmins/health060428.html>.

301 Fighting Infectious Diseases: G8 Response, Official Website of the G8 presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006 (Moscow) 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/g8role/>

302 Cumulative Number of Confirmed Cases of Avian Influenza A/(H5N1) Reported to WHO, World Health Organization (Geneva) 20 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006.

www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/country/cases_table_2006_06_20/en/index.html

303 Fighting Infectious Diseases: G8 Response, Official Website of the G8 presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006 (Moscow) 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/g8role/>

304 Canada Boosts Support to Indonesia in Time of Need, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 19 June 2006. Date of Access: 20 June 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/SOF-619163044-S3A>

305 Indonesian Earthquake: UK Government, Department for International Development (London) 30 May 2006. Date of Access: 21 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/emergencies/indonesia/siterep3.asp>

306 Statement of G8 Health Ministers, G8 Summit 2006 (Moscow) 28 April 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/healthmins/health060428.html>.

307 Compliance Studies, University of Toronto G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1998-2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/>

308 John Kirtin and Jenevieve Mannell, The G8 and Global Health Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 11 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirtin2005/kirtin_waterloo2005.pdf

309 Speech: Meeting our promises in poor countries, Department for International Development (London) 15 June 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/Speeches/healthcare-promises.asp>

Canada

The initiatives of the Canadian government in the sphere of global health involve the coordination and collaboration of several different federal departments, including Health Canada, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Public Health Agency of Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR).

Compliance Performance³¹⁰

The Canadian government has historically registered a high level of compliance with its G8 commitments in the area of global health,³¹¹ often leading its fellow G8 members in the speed and scope of its initiatives.³¹² In recent years, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has ranked among the top donors internationally to global health initiatives, particularly in the priority areas of HIV/AIDS, TB, polio, malaria, and vaccine research.³¹³ In line with its repeated commitments to tackling infectious diseases, CIDA has committed more than CDN\$800 million since 2000 toward combating the spread of HIV/AIDS globally.³¹⁴ This amount includes a total contribution of almost CDN\$550 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.³¹⁵ This contribution places the Canadian government among the top donors to the Global Fund, although the amount pledged to date is modest in comparison to the contributions of fellow G8 member states: France, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States.³¹⁶ Canada has also taken initiative in the effort to control TB and was the founding donor of the Global Drug Facility (GDF).³¹⁷ The Canadian government has made a substantial contribution to the global fight to eradicate polio through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), with a contribution of over CDN\$165 million in the past 15 years.³¹⁸

In keeping with its G8 commitments, the Canadian government has consistently demonstrated an enthusiastic level of collaboration with international organizations and initiatives, including the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), UNAIDS, and the World Health Organization (WHO).³¹⁹ In recent years, the Canadian government's compliance with its global health commitments has been particularly evident in its contributions to the Global HIV Vaccine Initiative in the form of financial donations and training initiatives to ensure that scientists in developing countries are proficient in laboratory techniques.³²⁰ Besides contributing over CDN\$50 million to the development of HIV/AIDS

³¹⁰ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

³¹¹ Compliance Studies, University of Toronto G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1998-2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/>

³¹² 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Results, University of Toronto G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

³¹³ Canada increases support for child survival initiatives in developing countries, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 22 February 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-327112749-MBF>

³¹⁴ Canada steps up efforts to fight HIV/AIDS, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 21 November 2005. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-323161441-SWQ>

³¹⁵ Canada marks World Tuberculosis Day with continued support to Global Drug Facility, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 23 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/NAT-5318550-G7P>

³¹⁶ Pledges, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 20 June 2006. Date of Access: 20 June 2006. http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/media_center/publications/factsheets_faq/default.asp#funding_region

³¹⁷ Canada marks World Tuberculosis Day with continued support to Global Drug Facility, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 23 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/NAT-5318550-G7P>

³¹⁸ Canada Announces \$10 Million for Global Polio Eradication, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 8 March 2001. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-44135531-P2D>

³¹⁹ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date Accessed: 31 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

³²⁰ 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Results, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

prevention and treatment methods,³²¹ the Canadian government collaborated and consulted with national governments and actors in the public and private sectors to develop possible vaccines in the years following the Evian³²² and Sea Island Summits.³²³

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Consolidation of a global network on monitoring and controlling infectious diseases

In September 2005, Canada announced a five-year, CDN\$15 million project to strengthen the capacity of public health systems in Southeast Asia and China to detect and respond effectively to emerging infectious diseases under the auspices of the Canada-Asia Regional Emerging Infectious Diseases (CAREID) Project.³²⁴ Furthermore, in September 2005, in an effort to combat the threat of global pandemics through global coordination and communication, the Public Health Agency of Canada expanded the Global Public Health Intelligence Network (GPHIN). Managed by Canadian authorities, the GPHIN is a multilingual, internet-based monitoring system that provides a global early warning reporting system for outbreaks of infectious disease.³²⁵

Continuing its efforts to foster global dialogue and policy coordination, in October 2005 the Government of Canada hosted an international meeting of Ministers of Health to enhance global planning and collaboration on pandemic influenza. Delegates from 30 countries and representatives from nine international organizations met in Ottawa to discuss how best to coordinate planning, preparation, and response to a possible pandemic influenza.³²⁶ In preparation for the focus on global health initiatives at the St. Petersburg Summit in July 2006, Health Minister Tony Clement attended the first-ever meeting of G8 Health Ministers in Moscow in April 2006. According to Minister Clement, he and his colleagues 'agreed that it is important to renew our efforts to meet existing health commitments made by G8 leaders and to intensify global cooperation on preparations related to a possible pandemic influenza.'³²⁷

Avian Influenza

The Canadian government has taken a concerted and multi-sectoral approach to combating the threat of avian influenza on the domestic and international fronts. In May 2006, the federal government announced plans for the Inter-agency Wild Bird Influenza Survey 2006, a joint effort between the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre, non-governmental organizations, academia, and the Government of Iceland. The Survey aims to provide an early detection and warning system for the entry of avian influenza into Canada and will be conducted during the spring, summer, and fall of 2006, allowing public health authorities to form a detailed understanding of the 'presence and characteristics of typical strains of avian influenza in North America's wild bird population.'³²⁸

In a direct attempt to guard against a global influenza pandemic, the federal government, in partnership with provincial and territorial governments, announced in May 2006 a collaborative effort to further

³²¹ 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Results, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

³²² 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report, University of Toronto G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

³²³ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report, University of Toronto G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

³²⁴ Canada's National and International Collaboration on Pandemic Influenza Planning, Health Canada (Ottawa) October 2005. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/intactiv/pandem-flu/questionsbk1_e.html

³²⁵ Canada's National and International Collaboration on Pandemic Influenza Planning, Health Canada (Ottawa) October 2005. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/intactiv/pandem-flu/questionsbk1_e.html

³²⁶ Global Influenza Pandemic Readiness: An International Meeting of Ministers of Health, Health Canada (Ottawa) October 2005. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/intactiv/pandem-flu/index_e.html

³²⁷ Minister Clement notes progress at G8 Health Ministers Meeting, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 28 April 2006. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. http://www.g8.gc.ca/G8_health_meeting-en.asp

³²⁸ Canada Launches 2006 Wild Bird Survey for Avian Influenza, Government of Canada (Winnipeg) 18 May 2006. Date of Access: 2 June 2006. http://www.ec.gc.ca/press/2006/060518_n_e.htm

increase emergency preparedness for a potential influenza epidemic.³²⁹ Their strategy will focus primarily on increasing the joint National Antiviral Stockpile from 16 million to 55 million doses; formalizing roles, responsibilities, and funding; sharing resources and knowledge across jurisdictions and integrating communication, planning, and action across various sectors.³³⁰ Drawing specific lessons from Canada's outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak in 2003, the Ministers emphasized the crucial need for coordination with non-governmental and private sector actors to develop context-appropriate preparedness and continuity strategies.³³¹

HIV/AIDS

Since the Gleneagles Summit, the Canadian government has continued its integrated, multi-sectoral approach to fighting HIV/AIDS on both a domestic and global scale. Its cooperation and collaboration with international organizations and domestic civil society actors has included substantial financial contributions, as well as preparations to host the XVI Annual International AIDS Conference in Toronto from 13-18 August 2006.

Financially, the Canadian government has taken steps towards supporting the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. In September 2005, the federal government announced a CDN\$250 million contribution towards replenishing the Global Fund.³³² In the 2006 Federal Budget, the current government honored the global health commitments of its predecessor with the allocation of CDN\$250 million to the Global Fund, contingent on the 2005–06 federal surplus exceeding \$2 billion.³³³ In November 2005, CIDA announced an investment of CDN\$60 million over six years in the global fight against HIV/AIDS in developing countries.³³⁴ The contribution was allocated specifically to support CIDA's existing efforts to combat HIV/AIDS in developing countries, in collaboration with UNAIDS, the WHO, the IAVI, and the Global Health Research Initiative.³³⁵ CIDA designated CDN\$5 million of the contribution specifically towards supporting the rights, protection, and empowerment of women infected with HIV.³³⁶

In fostering global dialogue and engagement with global civil society, Health Canada allocated CDN\$1.5 million in November 2005 to the International AIDS Society for the XVI International AIDS Conference.³³⁷ This contribution will be directed toward the core costs of the Conference, including a Scholarship Program for Canadian residents in an attempt to encourage government-funded research.³³⁸ The Conference will provide a forum for debate among scientific, political, and community stakeholders from around the world to increase the scope of collective global action in the fight against HIV/AIDS.³³⁹

³²⁹ Conference of Federal-Provincial Territorial Ministers of Health, Health Canada (Ottawa) 13 May 2006. Date of Access: 2 June 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/nr-cp/2006/2006_05_13_e.html

³³⁰ Conference of Federal-Provincial Territorial Ministers of Health, Health Canada (Ottawa) 13 May 2006. Date of Access: 2 June 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/nr-cp/2006/2006_05_13_e.html

³³¹ Conference of Federal-Provincial Territorial Ministers of Health, Health Canada (Ottawa) 13 May 2006. Date of Access: 2 June 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/media/nr-cp/2006/2006_05_13_e.html

³³² 2005 Gleneagles Interim Compliance Report, University of Toronto G8 Research Group, (Toronto), 9 February 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-03_g8-i-comp_hiv.pdf.

³³³ Budget 2006: Focusing On Priorities, Department of Finance (Ottawa) 2 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. <http://www.fin.gc.ca/budget06/bp/bpc3de.htm#assistance>

³³⁴ Canada steps up efforts to fight HIV/AIDS, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 21 November 2005. Date of Access: 20 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-323161441-SWQ>

³³⁵ Canada steps up efforts to fight HIV/AIDS, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 21 November 2005. Date of Access: 20 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-323161441-SWQ>

³³⁶ Canada steps up efforts to fight HIV/AIDS, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 21 November 2005. Date of Access: 20 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-323161441-SWQ>

³³⁷ Health Canada announces funding for the AIDS 2006 Conference in Toronto, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 25 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/media/nr-rp/2005/2005_41_e.html

³³⁸ Health Canada announces funding for the AIDS 2006 Conference in Toronto, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 25 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/media/nr-rp/2005/2005_41_e.html

³³⁹ Health Canada announces funding for the AIDS 2006 Conference in Toronto, Public Health Agency of Canada (Ottawa) 25 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/media/nr-rp/2005/2005_41_e.html

Malaria and Tuberculosis (TB)

In February 2006, CIDA stepped up its commitment to fighting malaria in developing countries with a CDN\$46.5 million contribution to the child-focused initiatives of UNICEF.³⁴⁰ The funds will primarily be allocated towards empowering local communities with the necessary infrastructure, training, and resources to deliver health care services, primarily in Africa.³⁴¹ CIDA's contribution will also facilitate the distribution of over 1.2 million mosquito nets for households with children in malaria-affected regions of Ethiopia, an initiative which is projected to prevent over 10 000 child deaths from malaria over the next three years.³⁴²

Recognizing the threat of TB both nationally and globally, in March 2006, the Canadian government announced its goal of reducing the incidence of TB globally by 5%. It also renewed its commitment to reducing the incidence of 'diseases of poverty' by 50% by 2010, in line with the G8 Okinawa Declaration.³⁴³ Minister of Health, Tony Clement, further stated the Canadian government's commitment to reducing the incidence of TB among Canada's First Nations to 3.6 per 100 000 by 2015.³⁴⁴ Towards achieving these goals, Minister Clement announced a federal contribution of CDN\$20 million to the GDF. This contribution will facilitate the provision of TB drugs to TB survivors in developing countries and in regions experiencing a humanitarian crisis.³⁴⁵

Measles and other preventable infectious diseases

CIDA allocated CDN\$17.5 million of its February 2006 pledge to UNICEF specifically towards measles immunization and pneumonia and diarrhea treatments in Ethiopia.³⁴⁶ This contribution builds upon CIDA's pledge to donate CDN\$15 million to global measles initiatives during the 2005-2006 fiscal period.³⁴⁷ The 2006 Federal Budget announced a CDN\$45 million contribution to support the GPEI, although this contribution is contingent on the 2005–06 federal surplus exceeding \$2 billion.³⁴⁸

Access to treatment and prevention

In addition to its global and domestic commitments to fighting infectious diseases, the Canadian government has renewed its efforts to provide quality institutional health care domestically and to finance the research and production of medicines. In the 2006 Federal Budget, the federal government supported the 2004 federal-provincial-territorial 10-Year Plan to Strengthen Health Care, allocating funds specifically towards reductions in patient wait-times.³⁴⁹ In accordance with the 10-Year Plan, the 2006 Federal

³⁴⁰ Canada increases support for child survival initiatives in developing countries, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 22 February 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-327112749-MBF>

³⁴¹ Canada increases support for child survival initiatives in developing countries, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 22 February 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-327112749-MBF>

³⁴² Canada increases support for child survival initiatives in developing countries, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 22 February 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-327112749-MBF>

³⁴³ Message from Tony Clement, Minister of Health: World Tuberculosis Day, Health Canada (Ottawa) 24 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/minist/health-sante/messages/2006_03_24_e.html

³⁴⁴ Message from Tony Clement, Minister of Health: World Tuberculosis Day, Health Canada (Ottawa) 24 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ahc-asc/minist/health-sante/messages/2006_03_24_e.html

³⁴⁵ Canada marks World Tuberculosis Day with continued support to Global Drug Facility, Canadian International Development Agency, (Gatineau), 23 March 2006. Date Accessed: 2 June 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/NAT-5318550-G7P>

³⁴⁶ Canada increases support for child survival initiatives in developing countries, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 22 February 2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JER-327112749-MBF>

³⁴⁷ RPP 2005-2006, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 24 March 2005. Date of Access: 20 June 2006. http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/est-pre/20052006/CIDA-ACDI/CIDA-ACDIr56-PR_e.asp?printable=True

³⁴⁸ Budget 2006: Focusing On Priorities, (Assistance) Department of Finance (Ottawa) 2 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006. <http://www.fin.gc.ca/budget06/bp/bpc3de.htm#assistance>

³⁴⁹ Budget 2006: Focusing On Priorities, (Health) Department of Finance (Ottawa) 2 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006.

Budget confirmed the allocation of CDN\$1.1 billion in 2006–07 and an additional CDN\$1.2 billion in 2007–08 through the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) in support of provincial-territorial health systems.³⁵⁰ The 2006 Federal Budget also allocated \$17 million per year for the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.³⁵¹ At the provincial-territorial level, however, Health Ministers have indicated that their reluctance to implement the guarantee stems from inadequate financial support from the federal government.³⁵² Although funding for the wait-time guarantee was included in the CDN\$41-billion health care accord signed in the fall of 2004, no additional funding was allocated towards this initiative in the 2006 Federal Budget.³⁵³

Epidemics caused by natural calamities and humanitarian crises

In June 2006, CIDA announced a CDN\$5 million contribution to assist the Indonesian government in facing the increased risk of an avian influenza epidemic, in recognition of the heightened vulnerability to epidemics presented by the recent earthquake in Indonesia.³⁵⁴ This contribution includes an allocation of CDN\$250 000 to the efforts of the WHO towards strengthening the Indonesian government's capacity to detect and fight the danger of epidemics related to natural disasters.³⁵⁵

Conclusion

In the period since the 2005 G8 Summit in Gleneagles, the Canadian government has stepped up its contribution to global health initiatives, most notably by fostering global dialogue, promoting global knowledge sharing, and facilitating expert exchange. Canada's commitment to tackling infectious diseases at their roots through front-line training and the financial contributions to support them is most evident in its efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, and avian influenza. As the coordination of a global response to fight infectious disease will be a priority focus of the St. Petersburg Summit,³⁵⁶ the Canadian government has the responsibility and the capacity to continue to foster global dialogue and initiatives.

During the St. Petersburg Summit, Prime Minister Stephen Harper can be expected to emphasize, but not extend, the Canadian government's repeated commitments and continued financial contribution towards multilateral global health initiatives, particularly the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the GPEI. Prime Minister Harper can also be expected to highlight the urgent need for Canada's fellow G8 member states to collaborate with each other and with civil society actors to prepare against a potential global influenza pandemic. Finally, Harper is likely to extend an invitation to his fellow G8 leaders for the XVI Annual International AIDS Conference in Toronto from 13-18 August 2006.

**Compiled by:
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<http://www.fin.gc.ca/budget06/bp/bpc3ee.htm#health>

³⁵⁰ Budget 2006: Focusing On Priorities, (Research), Department of Finance (Ottawa) 2 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006

<http://www.fin.gc.ca/budget06/bp/bpc3be.htm#research>

³⁵¹ Budget 2006: Focusing On Priorities, (Research), Department of Finance (Ottawa) 2 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 June 2006

<http://www.fin.gc.ca/budget06/bp/bpc3be.htm#research>

³⁵² Gloria Galloway, Provinces prodded to move on waiting times, The Globe and Mail (Ottawa) 1 June 2006. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20060601.HEALTH01/TPStory/National>

³⁵³ Gloria Galloway, Provinces prodded to move on waiting times, The Globe and Mail (Ottawa) 1 June 2006. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20060601.HEALTH01/TPStory/National>

³⁵⁴ Canada Boosts Support to Indonesia in Time of Need, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 19 June 2006. Date of Access: 20 June 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/SOF-619163044-S3A>

³⁵⁵ Le Canada accroît l'aide aux victimes du tremblement de terre, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 6 June 2006. Date of Access: 20 June 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/acdicida.nsf/790b0ca8ad117c10852570d500570f6e/19cc57309b38a9d8852571840064a36d?OpenDocument>

³⁵⁶ Laura Sunderland, The Prospective Agenda for the 2006 G8 St. Petersburg Summit, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 29 May 2006. Date of Access: 31 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2006stpetersburg/2006agenda.html>

France

Though historically committed more to fighting HIV/AIDS than other infectious diseases, France continues to play a significant role among G8 member nations in developing and promoting global health initiatives. The federal departments responsible for coordinating these initiatives include the Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MSPS), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAE), the French Development Agency, the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industry (MINEFI), and the Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research (MENESR).

Compliance Performance³⁵⁷

Consistent with the compliance rates achieved by other G8 members with the Okinawa health commitments for 2000 and 2001, France achieved full compliance in its efforts to help deliver three critical United Nations (UN) targets by 2010, including a reduction in the number of HIV/AIDS infected youth, a reduction in tuberculosis (TB) prevalence and deaths, and a reduction in the burden of disease associated with malaria.³⁵⁸ Having pledged over US\$133 million to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria in 2001-2002 - thereby exceeding its expected, proportional GDP contribution by over 50% - France also achieved full compliance with its Genoa health commitments in 2001 to 2002.³⁵⁹ The country also fulfilled its Evian health commitments for 2003 and 2004 as it played host to the International AIDS Society conference to support the Global Fund in July of 2003.³⁶⁰ Consistently demonstrating high compliance with health targets, France again achieved full compliance with its Sea Island 'HIV/AIDS commitments' (2004-2005),³⁶¹ despite registering a negative level of compliance with its 'polio commitments' (2004-2005), remaining one of the lowest 'core contributors' to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) since the Initiative's founding.³⁶²

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Avian Influenza

On the "frontlines of [the 'avian influenza' battle]," influenza experts from Italy, Norway and the UK, in collaboration with researchers at the Sanofi-Pasteur Institute in France, announced on 15 December 2005 that they had developed a candidate vaccine for avian influenza by targeting H7N, a virus typically affecting birds.³⁶³ Scientists affirmed that preliminary testing in France on the prototype influenza vaccine had "[shown] promise."³⁶⁴ While trials continued, Sanofi signed contracts with the governments of France, the US, and Australia to produce more than 5 million doses of the vaccine. France's Pasteur Institute (Paris) also continued to remain "actively engaged" in the Canadian-led International Consortium on Anti-Virals (ICAV), designed to research and develop an influenza treatment.³⁶⁵ France officials,

³⁵⁷ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

³⁵⁸ The 2001 G8 Compliance Report Revised Version, July 7, 2001, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 7 July 2001. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2001compliance/2001reportComp.pdf>

³⁵⁹ 2001 Genoa Compliance Report (Health), G8 Research Group (Toronto) 2002. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDiseases.pdf>

³⁶⁰ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report (Health), G8 Research Group (Toronto) 2003. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

³⁶¹ 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Report (Infectious Diseases: HIV/AIDS), G8 Research Group (Toronto) 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

³⁶² 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Report (Infectious Diseases: HIV/AIDS), G8 Research Group (Toronto) 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

³⁶³ Scientists working to protect us against avian and pandemic flu, EUROPA, 7 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/headlines/news/article_05_12_07_en.html

³⁶⁴ Tracking avian flu, AZ Starnet.com (Tucson) 16 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.azstarnet.com/news/107198>

³⁶⁵ Politics and pandemic planning, Toronto Star (Toronto) 8 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&cArticle&cid=1133995813986&call_pa_geid=968256290204&col=9683501167

however, elected to extend the country's ban on keeping poultry outdoors in order to prevent the spread of the disease by migrating birds until May 2006, when the situation would be reviewed.³⁶⁶

In February 2006, French Health Minister Xavier Bertrand urged consumers to remain calm despite France's first case of avian influenza. In an interview with *Associated Press Television News*, he said that the government had set aside US\$730 million for fighting the disease.³⁶⁷ However, national containment measures continued to intensify soon thereafter, following the discovery of the disease at a turkey farm in eastern France, the first confirmed cases of H5N1 in commercial poultry production in the European Union (EU). Japan and Hong Kong quickly took steps to place embargos on French imports of poultry products, including foie gras. Later, President Jacques Chirac, attending the opening of an agricultural fair, ate pieces of chicken in front of the cameras as he declared that there was "... no danger in consuming poultry and eggs."³⁶⁸ The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), however, has reported that avian influenza outbreaks in Europe, the Middle East and Africa have caused dramatic swings in poultry consumption, increased trade bans and sharp price declines, France having already experienced a 15-20% decline.³⁶⁹

By May of 2006, Sanofi-Pasteur Institute researchers announced that they had met with initial success in their attempts to develop a safe and effective avian influenza vaccine. Observers, including Anthony Fauci, director of the US Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at the National Institutes of Health, still caution, however, that it is difficult to predict how well the vaccine will work during a highly aggressive influenza pandemic.³⁷⁰ Nevertheless, European regional World Health Organization (WHO) director Marc Danzon argues that France appears to be "extremely well-prepared."³⁷¹

The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria

On 16 June 2005, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria "warmly [welcomed]" President Chirac's announcement of new, increased pledges by France to the Global Fund for 2006 and 2007. According to the announcement, France's contribution for 2006 will increase significantly compared to its 2005 level, "[doubling] its contribution,"³⁷² and will reach US\$376 million in 2007. Stating that France was "setting a great example for other donors to follow," Dr. Carol Jacobs, the Chair of the Global Fund's Board, affirmed that "France [had] again confirmed its position as one of the Global Fund's main supporters."³⁷³ Over a pledge period of 2002 to 2007, France has guaranteed the Global Fund US \$1 137 996 613, having already paid some 42.7%, or US\$485 822 700, of this pledged amount.³⁷⁴

Moreover, in December 2005, an official with the French contingent of the medical aid group *Medecins Sans Frontières* announced that the group would be withdrawing from Burma following the decision by the Global Fund to withdraw their Burmese operations in August.³⁷⁵ Also, officials from the National AIDS Multi-sectoral Program of the Democratic Republic of the Congo announced on 16 December 2005 that

³⁶⁶ H5N1 in Ukraine, human cases in SE Asia, United Press International (Washington, D.C.) 14 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.upi.com/ConsumerHealthDaily/view.php?StoryID=20051214-123906-3828r>

³⁶⁷ Bird flu fears grip Europe - Officials try to reassure poultry consumers, International Herald Tribune, 21 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006

³⁶⁸ Bird flu fears grip Europe - Officials try to reassure poultry consumers, International Herald Tribune, 21 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006

³⁶⁹ Cheap imports and bird flu hits UK industry, FOODproductiondaily.com, 15 May 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://www.foodproductiondaily.com/news/ng.asp?n=67694-grampian-poultry-bird-flu>

³⁷⁰ Researchers in France Develop Bird Flu Vaccine, Digitaljournal.com, 13 May 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://www.digitaljournal.com/news/?articleID=4672>

³⁷¹ Bird flu likely to return to Europe in autumn, Todayonline.com, 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://www.todayonline.com/articles/118561.asp>

³⁷² World Health Day (April 7, 2006), Ministère des Affaires Etrangères (Paris) 7 April 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/health-and-food_1102/events_2135/world-health-day-april-7-2006_4367.html

³⁷³ France Greatly Increases Global Fund Pledges, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 16 June 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/media_center/press/pr_050616.asp

³⁷⁴ The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Pledges, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 8 May 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/files/pledges&contributions.xls>

³⁷⁵ Another International Aid Group Pulls Out, The Irrawaddy, 20 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.irrawaddy.org/aviewer.asp?a=5316&z=153>

the country would host an international exhibition on HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention late in 2006, with representatives from Canada, Belgium, and France expected to attend.³⁷⁶

After having met with “Sidaction – Ensemble contre le Sida” on the occasion of World Health Day 2006 (7 April 2006), Brigitte Girardin, French Minister Delegate for Cooperation, Development and Francophony, underscored the essential role of NGOs and “stressed the need for a new awareness of the stakes involved in the spread of the AIDS pandemic among women... notably in developing countries.” She also “insisted on the need to facilitate access to treatments ...tailored to children with AIDS.”³⁷⁷

Malaria

At the end of December, the US Department of Commerce announced that European pharmaceutical price controls in countries such as Holland, Germany and France, had caused a US\$5 billion to US\$8 billion annual reduction in funding for drug research and development in the aforementioned countries. Were these ‘interventionist policies’ to be reversed, argued the study, the additional funds earned could lead to the discovery of “three or four new potentially life-saving chemicals each year.”³⁷⁸ It was also announced that members of the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi) – established in 2003 with public sector research support from several countries, including France - had persuaded two companies to produce “cheap and easy-to-take combination doses” of the “most effective” malarial pills.³⁷⁹ The drugs, both artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs), would be far more convenient, less expensive, and more effective than the old quinoline-based drugs, the group said. The two companies, France’s Sanofi-Aventis and Brazil’s Far-Manguinhos, agreed to make the drugs without patenting them, and promised to decrease the cost to less than \$1 a dose.³⁸⁰

Polio

In December 2005, it was reported that in six months, a reformulated polio vaccine had been moved through the process of testing, approval, and licensing by regulatory agencies in France, India, and Belgium. Shanelle Hall of the UNICEF Supply Division stated that although the process had moved quickly, “no quality controls were skipped... [and] everybody just gave us their highest attention.”³⁸¹

Measles and other preventable infectious diseases

In June 2005, France launched a national plan for the elimination of measles and congenital rubella by 2010. The main objectives of this plan included the interruption of indigenous measles transmission; the interruption of rubella transmission among pregnant women; the elimination of congenital rubella symptoms; and the maintenance of high levels of immunity against these two diseases among the French population through vaccination.³⁸² Focused on promoting immunization strategies, France’s national measles vaccination policy was also changed in 2005 to include two doses recommended before the age of 24 months, with the first dose at 12 months of age or at 9 months of age for children entering day-care centers. Also, since June 2005, measles has been made a mandatory notifiable disease in France, where each suspected case of measles must now be laboratory confirmed.³⁸³ Prior to the World Cup in

³⁷⁶ DR Congo to host international AIDS Exhibition, Angola Press (Kinshasa) 16 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.angolapress-angop.ao/noticia-e.asp?ID=400288>

³⁷⁷ World Health Day (April 7, 2006), Ministère des Affaires Étrangères (Paris) 7 April 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/health-and-food_1102/events_2135/world-health-day-april-7-2006_4367.html

³⁷⁸ Health Systems Abroad – Europe’s Ailing Drug Industry, Galen Institute (Alexandria) 28 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.galen.org/healthabroad.asp?docID=854>

³⁷⁹ Two New Malaria Treatments Available in 2006, Medical News Today, 29 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=35464>

³⁸⁰ Malaria initiative develops cheap pill treatments, Reuters (Washington, D.C.) 12 December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N12236454.htm>

³⁸¹ Polio Fight on Track, Courant.com (Washington) 26 December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.courant.com/news/health/hc-polio1226.artdec26.0.3575803.story?coll=hc-headlines-home>

³⁸² France launched a national plan for the elimination of measles and congenital rubella by 2010, Statens Serum Institut (Copenhagen) 7 November 2005. Date of Access: 18 June 2006. <http://www.ssi.dk/euvac/outbreak/france.html>

³⁸³ France launched a national plan for the elimination of measles and congenital rubella by 2010, Statens Serum Institut

2006, France's Health Ministry warned travelers of a measles outbreak in western Germany and advised French tourists to make sure they had been vaccinated accordingly.³⁸⁴

In February 2006, French Health Minister, Xavier Bertrand, announced that the government would study a plan for killing mosquitoes in the event that a crippling disease, Chikungunya fever, spread from La Réunion island to mainland France. Bertrand stated that several dozen people returning to the mainland from the Indian Ocean region had contracted the disease, which can be transmitted only by mosquitoes and is marked by high fever and severe, painful rashes. French Prime Minister, Dominique de Villepin, also promised it extra aid to tackle the virus.³⁸⁵

Access to treatment and prevention

By early December, G8 finance chiefs had pledged to give approximately US\$1 billion to pharmaceutical companies that developed vaccines for the prevention of diseases affecting poor countries. The plan, which would "[force] donor countries to pay only if and when a vaccine [were] found," received positive comments from the Italian, Canadian, and French finance ministers.³⁸⁶

In December 2005, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan publicly "welcomed" the French Parliament's adoption of a levy on airline tickets to help raise funds to "improve the health sector of poor nations." Funds raised will support HIV/AIDS, malaria, and TB programs.³⁸⁷ Scheduled to come into force on 1 July 2006, the levy would apply to all passengers taking off from French territory, except those in transit.³⁸⁸ Although Anthony Concil, spokesperson for the International Air Transport Association, had earlier cautioned in August 2005 that "making air travel more expensive is not the way to help" developing countries,³⁸⁹ by January 2006, Annan's spokesperson had stated that "the Secretary-General strongly [urged] other countries to follow France's lead with similar measures."³⁹⁰ Several countries, including Algeria, Brazil, and Britain, supported the tax and indicated that they might implement similar programs.³⁹¹

Epidemics caused by natural calamities and humanitarian crises

In November 2005, France's Foreign Minister announced a total contribution of 6.5 million euros to UNICEF's work in quake-affected Pakistan. In addition, 2 million doses of anti-tetanus vaccines and 1 million doses of anti-measles vaccines were donated by Sanofi-Pasteur. A two-week long measles immunization campaign – run by the WHO and the Ministry of Health – was also organized to cover the whole of Pakistan-administered Kashmir, focusing on remote valleys and other areas of limited access.³⁹²

Bioterrorism

On 15 December 2005, researchers from the Pasteur Institute in Paris as well as collaborators at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, announced that they had identified both the bacterial and

(Copenhagen) 7 November 2005. Date of Access: 18 June 2006. <http://www.ssi.dk/euvac/outbreak/france.html>

³⁸⁴ Measles in German region hosting World Cup, Associated Press (Paris), 6 June 2006. Date of Access: 18 June 2006. http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap_travel/20060606/ap_tr_ge/travel_brief_world_cup_measles

³⁸⁵ France to study plan to fight crippling disease, Reuters News, 28 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://global.factiva.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/ha/default.aspx>

³⁸⁶ G7 Pledge Around \$1.0 Billion In Vaccine Aid To Poor Countries, The Business Online, 3 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.thebusinessonline.com/DJStory.aspx?DJStoryID=20051203DN000989>

³⁸⁷ Global Challenges – France's Parliament Approves Airline Tax to Fund HIV/AIDS Programs, Kaisernetwork.org, 3 January 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=34507

³⁸⁸ Namibia: Government Explores Air Ticket Levy, AllAfrica.com, 15 May 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200605150853.html>

³⁸⁹ Global Challenges – France's Parliament Approves Airline Tax to Fund HIV/AIDS Programs, Kaisernetowkr.org, 3 January 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=34507

³⁹⁰ Annan welcomes France's airline ticket levy to help developing countries, UN News Center, 27 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=17044&Cr=France&Cr1>

³⁹¹ Global Challenges – France's Parliament Approves Airline Tax to Fund HIV/AIDS Programs, Kaisernetwork.org, 3 January 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=34507

³⁹² France's Foreign Minister donates 2.5 million euros to UNICEF during his visit to quake-affected Pakistan, UNICEF (Islamabad), 21 November 2005. Date of Access: 18 June 2006. http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/pakistan_30014.html

host receptor proteins that enable *Rickettsia conorii* (Mediterranean spotted fever pathogen), a potential bioterrorism agent, to enter cells.³⁹³

Moreover, in early January of 2006, the French government issued a decree listing the sectors in which it could act to block foreign hostile takeover bids of French companies considered to be of strategic importance to national defense. The decree, published in the government's official journal, also applied to aspects of pharmaceutical research and development aimed at countering bioterrorism.³⁹⁴

Other Global Health Initiatives and Involvement

In early January 2006, it was reported that an all-party French Polynesian Assembly committee would be publishing findings³⁹⁵ into claims that atomic test explosions, conducted on the atoll of Mururoa over thirty years, caused "fatalities and severe long-term health problems." Although "strong evidence" had emerged to support the claim that these tests had caused the region's chronic levels of leukemia and other cancers, France had continued to deny its culpability.³⁹⁶ French Polynesian opponents of France claimed, moreover, that Paris was aware of the health risks when testing began in 1966, and that the government had, for years, "engaged in an elaborate cover-up."³⁹⁷

From 1-2 March 2006, an International Symposium on Safety in Mines - organized by the French Institute of Mines Energy Social History (IHSME) – was held in northern France. Apart from the trade union activists, parliamentarians and academics from France, the international symposium was also attended by representatives from several other countries, such as Australia, India, and Morocco. Finally, in May of 2006, it was reported that the WTO would uphold its ruling that six European Union member states, including France, would be condemned for having applied individual bans on numerous genetically-modified (GMO) products previously approved by the European Commission. According to media reports, if E.U. members fail to observe the ruling, the US and others can seek sanctions.³⁹⁸

Conclusion

Given France's consistently high level of compliance with G8 health commitments, particularly in the areas of HIV/AIDS, it is likely that President Chirac will call renewed attention to the need for global coordination to support HIV/AIDS prevention and containment initiatives. In line with France's historical support of health initiatives in the developing world, the funding of healthcare programs and infrastructure – either directly or indirectly by way of government subsidized pharmaceutical production - and the increase of access to treatments in the developing world are issues also likely to be addressed by President Chirac during the Summit. However, in light of the increasingly pressing threat and border security fears that avian influenza presents for France, it may be that issues of a seemingly less urgent nature will be set aside.

Compiled by:
Abby Slinger

³⁹³ Research: How Rickettsial Pathogens Break Into Cells, The Public Interest Newswire, 15 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://newswire.ascribe.org/cgi-bin/behold.pl?ascribeid=20051215.093659.1&time=10%2034%20PST&year=2005&public=0>

³⁹⁴ French govt strengthens foreign takeover protection for defence-linked sectors, Forbes.com (Paris), 2 January 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.forbes.com/business/feeds/afx/2006/01/02/afx2423339.html>

³⁹⁵ French Polynesia: Assembly's N-test Inquiry Report Due Jan. 26, Pacific Magazine, 4 January 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://www.pacificislands.cc/pina/pinadefault2.php?urlpinaid=19307>

³⁹⁶ French accused of Pacific nuclear cover-up, Guardian Unlimited (London) 1 January 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. <http://observer.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,6903,1676239,00.html>

³⁹⁷ Mururoa: Results of nuclear tests probe due soon, The New Zealand Herald, 3 January 2006. Date of Access: 4 January 2006. http://www.nzherald.co.nz/section/story.cfm?c_id=2&ObjectID=10362261

³⁹⁸ Report: WTO ruling favors Monsanto, St. Louis Business Journal, 12 May 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://charlotte.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2006/05/08/daily67.html>

Germany

Germany has consistently demonstrated its commitment to global health initiatives through bilateral and multilateral initiatives to tackle infectious diseases, coordinated by several federal departments including the German Foreign Ministry, the Federal Ministry of Health, and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Compliance Performance³⁹⁹

In general, Germany has demonstrated positive compliance with its global health commitments in recent years. Germany has donated a majority of the €328.5 billion that it pledged to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria for the period of 2002 to 2007.⁴⁰⁰ In 2005, it donated €102.9 billion to the Global Fund.⁴⁰¹ In the past five years, Germany has also supported HIV vaccine research,⁴⁰² and since 2005, Germany contributed to the multilateral financing of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) funding gap. Furthermore, Germany has established several programs to address infectious diseases and to improve healthcare infrastructure around the world. For example, the BACKUP Initiative (Building Alliances, Creating Knowledge, Updating Partners), an international development cooperation program, facilitates partner countries in accessing global financial resources and quality-assurance efforts in the health-care sector. The initiative also facilitates the implementation of successful programs for the prevention and fight against AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. At the moment, €850 000 has been committed for this initiative.⁴⁰³ Since the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, however, Germany has not made any new commitments to the Global Fund, and has yet to deliver on its 2006 to 2008 \$US39.1 million GPEI target.⁴⁰⁴ Furthermore, Germany has not joined its G8 European counterparts—France, Italy, and the United Kingdom—in supporting the International Finance Facility for Immunization (IFFIm).

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Avian Influenza

In April 2006, Germany authorities confirmed an outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1 on a poultry farm in Saxony. This was the third suspected or confirmed outbreak of H5N1 on a poultry farm in the European Union (EU). Germany's response to avian influenza outbreaks are directed by the EU Avian Influenza Directive and Decision on avian influenza and domestic poultry adopted in 2006.⁴⁰⁵

At an international donor conference on avian influenza in Beijing on 17-18 January 2006, Germany pledged €23 million in support of avian flu prevention programs.⁴⁰⁶ Funds have yet to be disbursed. Before this pledge, the BMZ gave various grants, mainly to Vietnam and Indonesia, for laboratory equipment, vaccine research and information campaigns for citizens on avian influenza in 2005.⁴⁰⁷

³⁹⁹ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁴⁰⁰ Pledges and Contributions to Date, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva). Date of Access: June 1 2006. <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/files/pledges&contributions.xls>

⁴⁰¹ Pledges and Contributions to Date, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva). Date of Access: June 1 2006. <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/files/pledges&contributions.xls>

⁴⁰² 2004 Sea Island Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁴⁰³ Controlling Infectious Diseases, BMZ Infectious Diseases, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin), 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴⁰⁴ 2005 Gleneagles Interim Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 9 February 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-03_g8-i-comp_hiv.pdf and http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-04_g8-i-comp_polio.pdf

⁴⁰⁵ Highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza confirmed on poultry farm in Germany: German authorities applying EU control measures, EUROPA (Brussels) 5 April 2006. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/454&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

⁴⁰⁶ Bird Flu Challenge, BMZ Newsletter, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) February 2006. Date of Access: 20 February 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/nl/Newsletter02/index.html>

⁴⁰⁷ Bird Flu Challenge, BMZ Newsletter, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) February 2006. Date

In keeping with a collaborative, multilateral approach to preparing early detection and preventative plans, and strategies for emergency response, Germany's various departments including the BMZ, the Federal Health Ministry, and the Agriculture Ministry are working with the EU, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).⁴⁰⁸

HIV/AIDS

The global fight against HIV/AIDS has been a particular focus for Germany. Its goal is to halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015.⁴⁰⁹ To bolster its role in the global effort, Germany works in partnership with many international and regional organizations including UNAIDS, the WHO, UNICEF, the UN Development Programme, and the EU.⁴¹⁰ Germany supports the '3 ones' initiative in line with the 2005 Gleneagles HIV/AIDS commitment.⁴¹¹

Germany is engaged in bilateral funding with almost 50 countries that support activities that stem the spread of HIV/AIDS. It has agreed with 16 of its partner countries to make health-sector development a priority area of its bilateral funding and cooperation.⁴¹² Germany's programs to combat HIV/AIDS in developing countries are tailored to promote political dialogue with partner countries, international organizations, the private sector, and civil society.⁴¹³

On average, the German Federal Government provides €3 million per year for the HIV/AIDS fight and prevention.⁴¹⁴ Germany has supported programs in numerous countries including Cameroon, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, and Uganda that aim to reduce the rate of mother-to-child transmission.⁴¹⁵ In Cameroon, for example, Germany is supporting educational activities for youth that impart knowledge about how to prevent major infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS through the use of contraceptives while supporting the liberty of the individual to choose. According to "The German Government's 12th Development Policy Report," released in May 2005, the overall willingness in Cameroon to address HIV/AIDS, sexuality, and contraception in public has increased.⁴¹⁶

Moreover, Germany, along with other G8 member countries openly expressed its support for increasing access to essential medicines in the developing world. The Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ), has attempted to work with pharmaceutical companies to create cheaper alternatives to existing antiretroviral (ARV) drugs. The BMZ has stated its intention to work with countries and international organizations to reduce the price of ARV drugs.⁴¹⁷ In the Democratic Republic of

of Access: 20 February 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/nl/Newsletter02/index.html>

⁴⁰⁸ Bird Flu Challenge, BMZ Newsletter, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) February 2006. Date of Access: 20 February 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/nl/Newsletter02/index.html>

⁴⁰⁹ The German Government's 12 Development Policy Report, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) May 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/service/infotehk/fach/materialien/materialie152.pdf>

⁴¹⁰ The German Government's 12 Development Policy Report, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) May 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/service/infotehk/fach/materialien/materialie152.pdf>

⁴¹¹ German contribution towards combating HIV/AIDS, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/HIV_AIDS/deutscherBeitrag/index.html

⁴¹² German contribution towards combating HIV/AIDS, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/HIV_AIDS/deutscherBeitrag/index.html

⁴¹³ German contribution towards combating HIV/AIDS, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin). Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/HIV_AIDS/deutscherBeitrag/index.html

⁴¹⁴ In Partnership against the Pandemic: Germany's Cooperation with Developing Countries in Response to HIV/AIDS, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 2004. Date of Access: 26 June 2006.

<http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴¹⁵ In Partnership against the Pandemic: Germany's Cooperation with Developing Countries in Response to HIV/AIDS, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 2004. Date of Access: 26 June 2006.

<http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴¹⁶ The German Government's 12 Development Policy Report, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) May 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/service/infotehk/fach/materialien/materialie152.pdf>

⁴¹⁷ In Partnership against the Pandemic: Germany's Cooperation with Developing Countries in Response to HIV/AIDS, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 2004. Date of Access: 26 June 2006.

<http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

Congo, Germany has set up a public–private partnership that allows for the local production of antiretroviral medicines. The project is also meant to promote the gradual introduction of antiretroviral (ARV) therapy into the Kivu region of eastern Congo.⁴¹⁸

Malaria and Tuberculosis (TB)

Germany contributes to the fight against malaria and tuberculosis through various multilateral initiatives in addition to the Global Fund. In 2004, Germany donated €3 million to targeted malaria-control measures.⁴¹⁹ Germany additionally donated €250 000 for the WHO “Roll Back Malaria Initiative,” which advocates the implementation of preventative measures as a way to fight malaria. Germany also supports the promotion of district health systems that would be involved in combating malaria and tuberculosis.⁴²⁰ Moreover, Germany has developed initiatives to support the development of medicines, especially affordable malaria drugs that are targeted towards developing countries.

To date, Germany has donated about €45 million for the treatment of TB in Asia and Africa.⁴²¹ In addition to supporting the WHO’s Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS) Strategy against tuberculosis, it has provided laboratory equipment as well as training measures for medical personnel.⁴²²

Polio

Over the years, Germany’s contribution to polio eradication through the GPEI has remained consistent, although its pledges to the Initiative for the 2006 to 2007 are less than its contributions since 1985. From 1985 to 2002, Germany donated US\$46.07 million to polio eradication efforts of the GPEI.⁴²³ For the period of 2003 to 2005, Germany’s disbursements for polio eradication initiatives increased to US\$55.42 million. In a period that spanned from 1985 to 2008, Germany’s total contributions (pledges and donations) to the GPEI total US \$140.61 million, placing it as the fifth highest country donor after the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, and Canada.⁴²⁴ In the fall of 2005, Germany contributed US\$1 million to the GPEI,⁴²⁵ and the German National Committee for UNICEF contributed another US\$160 000 for oral polio vaccinations in Ghana and Niger.⁴²⁶

Germany has also found innovative ways to fund polio prevention programs. In 2005–2006, Germany successfully negotiated with the Government of Nigeria to release previously frozen funds in the country and to re-program €10 million for the purchase of oral polio vaccines.⁴²⁷

⁴¹⁸ The German Government’s 12 Development Policy Report, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) May 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/service/infothek/fach/materialien/materialie152.pdf>

⁴¹⁹ Controlling Infectious Diseases, BMZ Infectious Diseases, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴²⁰ Controlling Infectious Diseases, BMZ Infectious Diseases, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴²¹ Controlling Infectious Diseases, BMZ Infectious Diseases, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴²² In Partnership against the Pandemic: Germany’s Cooperation with Developing Countries in Response to HIV/AIDS, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 2004. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴²³ Donor Contributions to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) 1985–2008. 4 May 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/general/HistContributionWebMay06.pdf>

⁴²⁴ Donor Contributions to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) 1985–2008. 4 May 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/general/HistContributionWebMay06.pdf>

⁴²⁵ Recent Contributions, Global Polio Eradication News, Issue 25 (Geneva) Autumn 2005. Date of Access: 22 December 2005. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>

⁴²⁶ Recent Contributions, Global Polio Eradication News, Issue 26 (Geneva) Spring 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews26.pdf>

⁴²⁷ Germany: Novel Ways of Financing, Global Polio Eradication News, Issue 24 (Geneva) Summer 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2005. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>

Measles and other preventable infectious diseases

In recognizing the Millennium Development Goal of reducing the mortality rate among children by two thirds of the 1990 level, Germany is involved in specific mass campaigns such as national inoculation campaigns against measles and polio and programs to provide prompt treatment in cases of diarrhea and respiratory infections. Such measles and polio immunization campaigns have occurred in Malawi, India and the Philippines. Germany has funded these vaccinations through its health and family planning sector. Inputs for this sector have totaled €16.64 million in the past 12 years.⁴²⁸

Access to treatment and prevention

An output-based system of aid is slowly emerging in the developing world, which Germany is actively encouraging.⁴²⁹ This system allows easier access to both public and private healthcare providers for diagnosis and treatment. This is done through the disbursement of vouchers to individuals in need, which enables those most in need to access health services who otherwise might not use public health services for fear of discrimination. Currently on trial in Kenya, Uganda and Mali, this system is intended to generate competition and to make healthcare services more affordable.⁴³⁰

Conclusion

Germany's involvement in preventing the spread of infectious diseases, improving institutional healthcare, and assisting countries in maximizing aid for health purposes is considerable, although as noted, it has not made new funding commitments to the Global Fund and has yet to deliver on funds for the GPEI and the amount pledged for preventative avian flu programs. It remains to be seen how Germany's new Chancellor, Angela Merkel, will represent the German position towards global health at the St. Petersburg Summit, although it is likely that she will maintain Germany's support for policies defended by her predecessor, Gerhard Schroeder. These policies include support for development and the improvement of health in Africa, support for global HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, and increased effectiveness of development aid. Germany's difficult financial position may prevent it from making further pledges to the Global Fund, the GPEI, and other multilateral initiatives at the Summit. It can be expected, however, to lend its support to initiatives that ensure the more efficient use of aid, and the development of an effective system to monitor and control emerging infectious diseases.

Compiled by:
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⁴²⁸ The German Government's 12 Development Policy Report, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) May 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/service/infothek/fach/materialien/materialie152.pdf>

⁴²⁹ Controlling Infectious Diseases, BMZ Infectious Diseases, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

⁴³⁰ Controlling Infectious Diseases, BMZ Infectious Diseases, Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (Berlin) 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/issues/Health/hintergrund/schwerpunkt/infektionskrankheiten.html>

Italy

Italy's global health initiatives are coordinated by several departments, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGCS), the Italy Development Cooperation (Italian Cooperation), and the Italian National Health Institute (ISS). Through bilateral channels and multilateral programs, Italy has demonstrated substantial support for improving human health worldwide. It remains to be seen how the new government of Romano Prodi will perform in this respect. Prodi will represent Italy in discussions on global health and infectious diseases at the upcoming G8 summit in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Compliance Performance⁴³¹

Italy's leadership on global health issues began at the 2001 G8 Summit in Genoa, Italy, where the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was established. First conceived at the 2000 summit in Okinawa, the Global Fund was created to finance efforts to eradicate the three infectious diseases which are estimated to kill over 6 million people each year.⁴³² Italy has disbursed approximately €400 million to the Fund between 2001 and 2005, and has pledged an additional €260 million for the period of 2005 to 2007.⁴³³ Furthermore, at the Second Session of the Global Fund Refinancing Conference in 2005, Italy's former Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Giuseppe Drago, expressed the need to support increased coordination between national institutions, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and to find new mechanisms and possibilities for private sector participation in the fight against these three diseases.⁴³⁴

Since its leadership at Genoa, Italy has demonstrated positive compliance with its global health commitments made at the Evian, Sea Island, and Gleneagles Summits, largely due to its significant contributions to the Global Fund, its increased alliances with international AIDS organizations, and state funding for HIV vaccine trials.⁴³⁵ However, in 2004-2005, its compliance with the Sea Island commitment on polio eradication was criticized, as it did not contribute funds to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).⁴³⁶ Nevertheless, Italy continued to demonstrate its involvement in financing the development of vaccines for infectious diseases.⁴³⁷ Generally, in the past five years, Italy has committed substantial funds and communicated its support for the fight against diseases such as HIV/AIDS, polio, tuberculosis, and malaria.

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Avian Influenza

In September 2005, former Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Alessandro Merola, the Ministry of Health, the Department of Civil Protection, and Dr. Margaret Chan, Director of the Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response Department for the World Health Organization

⁴³¹ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁴³² The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 2006. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/>

⁴³³ Undersecretary Drago meets with a delegation from the Board of Directors of the STOP-TB Partnership, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 10 November 2005. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/0_1_01.asp?id=1199

⁴³⁴ Greeting by the Hon. Giuseppe Drago at the opening of the Second Session of the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria Refinancing Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 20 June 2005. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=1859&mod=1

⁴³⁵ 2004 Sea Island Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁴³⁶ 2004 Sea Island Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/15_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁴³⁷ Greeting by the Hon. Giuseppe Drago at the opening of the Second Session of the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria Refinancing Conference, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 20 June 2005. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=1859&mod=1

(WHO) met in Rome to speak about efforts around the world to monitor and control avian flu.⁴³⁸ At the meeting, Italian officials outlined national prevention plans for the illness, particularly plans for Italian citizens living abroad in areas in which risk of infection is greater. In stressing the importance of both prevention and emergency management interventions, Dr. Chan defined Italy's national prevention plan as "extremely positive and pro-active".⁴³⁹ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that it would boost the measures already undertaken for safeguarding Italian nationals abroad, with more "targeted information and the donation of basic medicines."⁴⁴⁰

In the same month, Undersecretary Drago spoke at the international conference in Ragusa, "Avian flu: real or imagined risks?" According to Drago, widespread concerns over the spread of avian flu are a result of "an 'information' epidemic that has spread inaccurate news about the real risks of a pandemic." At the same time, however, Drago noted the importance of closer cooperation between multilateral organizations and national and local authorities, using the case of "efficient liaising" between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, and international bodies as an example of effective multi-tiered coordination to address the spread of avian flu.⁴⁴¹

Several months later, in February 2006, Italian authorities confirmed outbreaks of the highly pathogenic avian influenza virus H5N1 in dead wild swans on the eastern coast of Sicily.⁴⁴² Former Health Minister Francesco Storace noted that the virus had affected only wild birds and posed no immediate risk to people: "It's a relatively safe situation for human health; less so for animal health."⁴⁴³ Although concerns about human infection were minimal, Italian officials adopted precautionary measures by establishing 3 km protection zones around each of the outbreak areas and a surrounding surveillance zone of 10 km.⁴⁴⁴ Bio-security measures were strengthened, disease awareness was created, and the hunting of wild birds was banned in both the protection and surveillance zones.⁴⁴⁵

HIV/AIDS

On the issue of HIV/AIDS, since Gleneagles, Italy has not made any other statements in support of the '3 ones' principles developed by the World Bank, UNAIDS, and global donors, to promote universal coordination in the fight against HIV/AIDS. However, Italy has continued its support for the Global Fund.⁴⁴⁶ Moreover, in recognizing the need for partnerships in combating HIV/AIDS, Italy has committed itself to intensifying its cooperation with Italian NGOs. According to a recent report in 2005 entitled, "Italy and the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria," the DGCS, led by Giuseppe Deodato, has guaranteed co-financing for programs being promoted by NGOs in countries including Angola, Bosnia, Romania, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.⁴⁴⁷ The main areas of intervention include: training for local

⁴³⁸ Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Alessandro Merola meets with Dr. Margaret Chan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 24 June 2006.

http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=1996&mod=1

⁴³⁹ Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Alessandro Merola meets with Dr. Margaret Chan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 24 June 2006.

http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=1996&mod=1

⁴⁴⁰ Meeting of the Crisis Unit with Dr. Chan of the WHO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 14 November 2005. Date of Access: 24 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=1993&mod=1

⁴⁴¹ Undersecretary Drago has opened in Ragusa the international conference: "Avian flu: real or imagined risks?" Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 24 June 2006.

http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=2134&mod=1

⁴⁴² Avian Flu - EU Reports of Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Medical News Today, 13 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 March 2006. <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=37699>

⁴⁴³ Maria Sanminiatielli, Avian Flu Discovered in Wild Swans in Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Washington Post (Rome) 12 February 2006. Date of Access: 24 June 2006. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/02/11/AR2006021101255.html>

⁴⁴⁴ Avian Flu - EU Reports of Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Medical News Today, 13 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 March 2006. <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=37699>

⁴⁴⁵ Avian Flu - EU Reports of Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Medical News Today, 13 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 March 2006. <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=37699>

⁴⁴⁶ 2005 Gleneagles Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto), 9 February 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006.

http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-03_g8-i-comp_hiv.pdf, and http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2005compliance_interim/2005-04_g8-i-comp_polio.pdf

⁴⁴⁷ Italy and the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign

healthcare workers, improvement and modernization of existing health infrastructure, prevention and control of mother-to-child HIV transmission, and support for local organizations. The DGCS has also launched emergency programs committed to fighting HIV/AIDS in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Zambia. Furthermore, contributions were made to UNESCO to support research activities for a pediatric HIV vaccine conducted by the World Fund for AIDS Research and Prevention.⁴⁴⁸

Tuberculosis (TB)

In March 2006, Undersecretary Drago pointed out that World TB Day was celebrated so significantly in Italy due in large part to the collaboration between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the STOP TB Partnership, an “innovative form of cooperation” between the private sector, NGOs, international organizations, donor countries and beneficiaries, united in the common effort to halve the number of TB deaths before 2015.⁴⁴⁹ In addition to fighting tuberculosis through contributions to the Global Fund, Italy has contributed €3.5 million to the WHO for its efforts to fight TB through the STOP TB Partnership.

Undersecretary Drago recently announced his desire to raise awareness within the G8 about the need to fight TB, particularly in Africa. He further stressed the need to improve technical capabilities and assistance to develop and distribute new vaccines and treatments. It is unclear what the new Italian government's plans are in this regard, but it may push for a soft commitment to TB and unveil new TB-related spending at St. Petersburg.⁴⁵⁰

Polio

Since the Gleneagles Summit, Italy has pledged US\$5.5 million to the Gleneagles polio eradication initiative for the 2006 fiscal year. However, these funds have yet to be disbursed.⁴⁵¹ This payment was made on a three year, €14 million commitment during the G8 meeting.⁴⁵² However, Italy has taken unilateral action when necessary. In 2005, during a polio outbreak in Angola, Italy donated US\$ 115,000.⁴⁵³

Measles and other preventable infectious diseases

Although there has not been recent news on Italy's involvement in supporting vaccinations against measles internationally, Italy, along with the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, the US Government's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, the European Commission, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, participated in a campaign in 2004 to vaccinate millions of children against measles in Sudan's troubled Darfur region.⁴⁵⁴

Affairs (Torino) June 2005. Date of Access: 24 June 2006.

<http://www.cooperazioneallosviluppo.it/cooperazione/documenti/aidstuberculosis.pdf>

⁴⁴⁸ Italy and the fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Torino) June 2005. Date of Access: 24 June 2006.

<http://www.cooperazioneallosviluppo.it/cooperazione/documenti/aidstuberculosis.pdf>

⁴⁴⁹ Undersecretary Drago takes part in the convention "Tuberculosis: a Global Problem", Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 21 March 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=2314&mod=1

⁴⁵⁰ Undersecretary Drago takes part in the convention "Tuberculosis: a Global Problem", Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 21 March 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=2314&mod=1

⁴⁵¹ Autumn 2005 Polio News, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) Autumn 2005. Date of Access: 25 March 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>

⁴⁵² International Political Commitments, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) 2005. Date of Access: 16 March 2006. http://www.polioeradication.org/content/publications/AnnualReport2005_ENG06.pdf.

⁴⁵³ Autumn 2005 Polio News, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) Autumn 2005. Date of Access: 25 March 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews25.pdf>

⁴⁵⁴ Immunization begins for millions of children in Darfur, Sudan. Medical News Today, 7 June 2004. Date of Access: 24 June 2006. <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=9227>.

Access to treatment and prevention

Italy has been actively pursuing the development of Advanced Market Commitments (AMCs) that would fund the development of vaccines for infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and malaria.⁴⁵⁵ The former Italian Minister of Economy and Finance, Giulio Tremonti, has also spoken passionately in recent months on the need for the G8 to focus on eliminating 'neglected diseases'. His hope is that AMC programs will provide cost-effective and market-based incentives for drug companies to develop treatments on their own accord.⁴⁵⁶

In addition to being a leader in the development of an AMC initiative, Italy, along with the United Kingdom, France, Sweden, and Spain, launched the International Financing Facility for Immunization (IFFIm) in September 2005. The IFFIm is an innovative new financing institution that aims to ensure the provision of an additional US\$4 billion over the next ten years in support of the work of the Vaccine Fund and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI).⁴⁵⁷ To date, Italy has pledged funds to the IFFIm while the United States, Germany and Japan are still hesitant to participate.⁴⁵⁸ It is uncertain whether Italy's new government under Romano Prodi shares Minister Tremonti's enthusiasm for such initiatives to fight disease in the developing world.

Epidemics caused by natural calamities and humanitarian crises

The Italian government's response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami of 2004-05 was multifaceted and in the interests of global health. Former Prime Minister Berlusconi went so far as to call on Tony Blair to convene a special meeting of the G8 leaders to deal with the crisis. Blair responded that the United Nations and not the G8 should lead in the crisis management. Nonetheless, Berlusconi demonstrated his support for the G8 as an institution necessary for health and humanitarian issues. Italy disbursed US\$604 696 to the WHO for its response efforts.⁴⁵⁹ In Africa, Italy resumed its bilateral cooperation with Sudan in the health sector in 2005. In South Sudan, the Italian Cooperation implemented a €1.4 million emergency program for the people of South Sudan and a coordination program in the Rumbek district for a total of €700 000.⁴⁶⁰ Italian Cooperation has also supported WHO activities to respond to the cholera outbreak in South Sudan and polio in West Darfur.⁴⁶¹

Conclusion

Italy has demonstrated its commitment to the improvement of global health through its efforts to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, its support for vaccine research, and its leadership in new initiatives such as the Advanced Market Commitments. Italy's new Prime Minister, Romano Prodi, will likely continue Italy's involvement in existing initiatives, however, the areas in which he may place greater emphasis may differ. At the upcoming St. Petersburg Summit, Italy will likely reaffirm its commitment to the Global Fund; it may, like his government predecessors, advocate for greater intra-national cooperation between public, private and civic institutions in the fight against infectious diseases; and may lend its support to the adoption of an AMC initiative among G8 countries.

Compiled by:
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⁴⁵⁵ Giulio Tremonti, Advanced Market Commitments for vaccines, a new tool in the fight against disease and poverty (London) 2 December 2005. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/consultations/amc-report-tremonti.pdf>

⁴⁵⁶ Andrew Jack, UK and Italy support fresh finance mechanism to fund drug innovation, Fund aims to support companies to tackle disease in the developing world, Financial Times, (Davos), 28 January 2006.

⁴⁵⁷ International Finance Facility, HM Treasury (London). Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/documents/international_issues/international_development/development_iff.cfm

⁴⁵⁸ Italy to Advocate Vaccine Proposal at G7 Meeting, Kaiser Foundation, 2 December 2005. Date of Access: 25 March 2006. http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=34104

⁴⁵⁹ Funds given/pledged to WHO for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Response. World Health Organization (Geneva) 20 January 2006. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. http://www.who.int/hac/crises/international/asia_tsunami/appeal/tsunami_contributions/en/index.html

⁴⁶⁰ Italian cooperation activities in Sudan, Embassy of Italy in Khartoum (Geneva) 2005. Date of Access: 24 June 2006. http://www.ambberlino.esteri.it/Ambasciata_Khartoum/Menu/I_rapporti_bilateriali/Cooperazione_allo_sviluppo/

⁴⁶¹ Health Action in Crises – Highlights – No 97: 27 February – 5 March 2006, World Health Organization (Geneva) 2006. Date of Access: 24 June 2006. http://www.who.int/hac/donorinfo/highlights/Highlights_97_27Feb_5Mar06.pdf

Japan

Japan continues to assist developing countries through funded programs, and remains the second largest financial donor, behind the United States, to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.⁴⁶² In 2006, Japan contributed \$US130 million to the Fund.⁴⁶³ Japan is also committed to achieving the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.⁴⁶⁴ The federal departments and agencies responsible for achieving these goals include the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Compliance Performance⁴⁶⁵

The University of Toronto G8 Research Group 'health compliance' records show that, on a scale of 1 to -1, Japan has scored between 1 and .5 over the past five years.⁴⁶⁶ In general, Japan performs satisfactorily, and continues to propose global health initiatives and allocate more funding for health.

In 1974, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) was formed to help developing countries build health systems and provide health services.⁴⁶⁷ In 1984, Japan sponsored an international conference on bioethics.⁴⁶⁸ In 1987, in Venice, Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone proposed a Human Frontier Science Program to research biological functions, which remains active today.⁴⁶⁹ Japan created the Global Issues Initiative on Population and AIDS in 1994 to deal with infectious diseases.⁴⁷⁰ In 1998, the Global Parasitic Diseases Control centre was established.⁴⁷¹ At the Okinawa Summit in 2000, Japan agreed to sponsor a conference on HIV/AIDS and malaria with its Infectious Diseases Initiative.⁴⁷² Just prior to the 2005 Gleneagles summit, Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi announced that Japan would provide US\$5 billion in assistance over the next five years to improve health in the developing world, based on its Health and Development Initiative.⁴⁷³ Japan also stated in its "Health and Development Initiative" document, that by "cooperating with other donors and international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), Japan will support the establishment of a worldwide surveillance system for early detection of emerging infectious diseases, thereby taking countermeasures against epidemics at an early stage."⁴⁷⁴

⁴⁶² Millennium Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme, September 2000. <http://www.undp.org/mdg/basics.shtml>

⁴⁶³ Japan Contributes to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 16 March, 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2006/3/0315-2.html>

⁴⁶⁴ Announcement of the Health and Development Initiative and Japan's Contribution to Achieve the Health MDGs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 28 June, 2005. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/health_c/forum0506/announce.html

⁴⁶⁵ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁴⁶⁶ G7/8 Performance Assessments by Country, 1996-2004, G8 Research Group Analytical Studies. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/assess-countries.html>

⁴⁶⁷ History of the Japan International Cooperation Agency, Japan International Cooperation Agency. <http://www.jica.go.jp/english/about/index.html>

⁴⁶⁸ Kimura, Rihito. Bioethics as Prescription for Civic Action: the Japanese Interpretation, 1987, p.3. http://www.bioethics.jp/licht_biocivics.html

⁴⁶⁹ History of the Human Frontier Science Program, HFSP website. <http://www.hfsp.org/about/AboutHistory.php>

⁴⁷⁰ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, 1994. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/pop_aids/gii/gii.html

⁴⁷¹ Japan's Initiative in the fight Against Infectious and Parasitic Diseases on the Occasion of the Kyushu-Okinawa Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, 1998. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/summit/infection.html>

⁴⁷² ODA Evaluation: Japan's Contribution to World Pandemic of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, midterm Evaluation Study of Okinawa ID Initiative and Japan's Future Efforts, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, 1998. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/2003/seminar0403.html>

⁴⁷³ Prime Minister Koizumi Pledges US\$5 Million for the Coming Years to the Global Fund, Reiterates US\$5 Billion Pledge Over 5 Years for Health in ODA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, June 30, 2005. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2005/6/0630.html>

⁴⁷⁴ Health and Development Initiative: Japan's Contribution in Achieving the Health-Related MDGs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, June 2005. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/health_c/forum0506/hdi.pdf

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Avian Influenza

The highly pathogenic avian influenza strain H5N1 has destroyed poultry populations and caused human fatalities worldwide. The disease spread from Asia to Europe in October 2005, and the G8 is concerned that this could trigger a global human pandemic. The G8 has mobilized efforts to detect, prevent, and control the H5N1 strain which has spread to every continent with the exception of North America.⁴⁷⁵

Japan hosted a conference in Tokyo on 12-13 January 2006 to identify cross-border solutions for early detection of avian influenza.⁴⁷⁶ Here, countries were asked to adopt the revised International Health Regulations (IHRs) for development of core health capacities. Applications of the IHRs were set out by the WHO to prepare countries for potential international health crises.⁴⁷⁷ The IHRs aim to protect people against epidemics. Under the revised regulations, countries are obliged to build national capacity for regular preventive measures, and to detect and respond to public health emergencies of international concern. These measures include public surveillance, information-sharing among countries - border and health officials, standardized risk assessments and reporting of risks, and encouraging the public to take necessary health precautions, such as obtaining vaccinations, showing proof of vaccination, and using special sanitation procedures at ports, airports and borders.⁴⁷⁸

Effective preparedness for a pandemic influenza between countries was also recently discussed at the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza in Vienna from 6-7 June 2006. Here, Japan agreed to enhance its multilateral efforts to develop rapid social and economic responses to, and containment practices for, a possible pandemic.⁴⁷⁹

HIV/AIDS

The Japanese government aims to halt the incidence of HIV/AIDS by 2015 and reverse its spread,⁴⁸⁰ and is most active in helping developing countries to tackle HIV/AIDS epidemics. Domestically, there are relatively few HIV/AIDS cases. Reported last in 2005, Japan had a total of 7143 HIV/AIDS cases.⁴⁸¹ Japan emphasizes the importance of the Three Ones outlined by UNAIDS to establish national health frameworks, national HIV/AIDS coordinating authorities, and a standardized country monitoring and evaluation system.⁴⁸² To reduce the risk of HIV/AIDS cases, Japan promotes prevention through awareness-raising education, the promotion of condom use and Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) by local counselors, and test kit instruction to administer, test, and read blood result samples by local technicians.

On 9 June 2006, Russia's State Duma, the British House of Commons, Transatlantic Partners Against AIDS, lawmakers and officials from the G8 countries, as well as China and India, met to discuss the risk

⁴⁷⁵ G8 Health Ministers Array Their Forces for Bird Flu Battle, Environmental News Service, 7 June 2006. <http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/may2006/2006-05-02-04.asp>.

⁴⁷⁶ Japan-WHO Joint Meeting on Early Response to Potential Influenza Pandemic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, January 2006. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/health_c/poultry/meet0601.pdf.

⁴⁷⁷ World Health Organization, Eighth Plenary Session, May 26, 2006. http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA59/WHA59_2-en.pdf.

⁴⁷⁸ Application of IHRs (2005), Fifty-Ninth Plenary Session, World Health Assembly, May 26, 2006, pp.1-3. http://www.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA59/WHA59_2-en.pdf; Current IHR, Epidemic and Pandemic Alert Response, World Health Organization, 2006. <http://www.who.int/csr/ihr/current/en/index.html>.

⁴⁷⁹ Responding to the Global Threat of Avian and Pandemic Influenza, U.S. Department of State, November 2005. <http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/rm/56692.htm>.

⁴⁸⁰ Health and Development Initiative Outline, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, 2005. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/white/2005/ODA2005/html/box/bx02005.htm>.

⁴⁸¹ AIDS Statistics, the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, October 2005. http://www.japanetwork.org/aidsnews/stats/05aug_oct.html.

⁴⁸² Health and Development Initiative Outline, 2005.

of Eurasia's emerging HIV epidemics and solutions to eliminate them.⁴⁸³ At this meeting, the group focused attention on 3 areas: stopping the spread of Eurasian epidemics, common information-sharing between all countries to improve response sector (health, social, economic and security) systems, and proactive multilateral action to coordinate national responses to epidemics.⁴⁸⁴

Malaria and Tuberculosis (TB)

Japan has eliminated cases of malaria in its country, but continues to support global efforts to eradicate this disease.⁴⁸⁵ In particular, the Government of Japan has stated that “with regard to malaria, Japan will support prevention education, check-ups and treatment. In particular it will provide assistance to supply anti-malaria drugs and insecticide-treated bed nets..., which is considered a useful measure in the Roll Back Malaria initiative established by the WHO, UNICEF and World Bank in 1998.”⁴⁸⁶ Japan and other G8 countries are working with the Roll Back Malaria initiative to halve malaria deaths by 2010.⁴⁸⁷ Roll Back Malaria has promoted an international disease control strategy, rapid clinical case detection and treatment, the use of insecticide treated bed-nets, the management of malaria during pregnancy and the focal control of malaria transmission in emergency or epidemic situations. The partnership continues to expand the use of these interventions in countries where malaria is endemic.⁴⁸⁸

TB is another infectious disease of concern for the G8. Japan aims to “have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other diseases”.⁴⁸⁹ Specifically, “with regard to tuberculosis control, since it is known that the Directly Observed Treatment 12 (DOTS) strategy is quite effective, Japan will seek to supply anti-TB drugs and test kits, and provide assistance to develop human resources that are needed to promote the DOTS strategy”.⁴⁹⁰ Domestically, Japan has substantially reduced the number of TB patients and eradicated some parasitic diseases, such as malaria, schistosomiasis, and filariasis.⁴⁹¹ Japan supports The Global Plan to Stop TB by the efforts of its Research Institute of Tuberculosis (RIT) and an Anti-Tuberculosis Association. RIT provides research in the areas of local and non-local TB education methods, medics' training, and technical support services.⁴⁹²

Polio

At the Sea Island Summit in 2004, the G8 agreed to try to eradicate polio by 2005 and raised US\$3.3B from the private and public sectors to fund global polio immunization campaigns around the world.⁴⁹³ The Japanese government has pledged to “continue to support polio eradication programs through the supply of polio vaccine, and technical cooperation on diagnosis, surveillance and production of vaccine.”⁴⁹⁴

Japan, along with its fellow G8 members, supports the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) to eradicate polio worldwide. GPEI was formed in 1988 by national governments, the World Health Organization, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and UNICEF. In

⁴⁸³ Lebedev, A. AIDS Officials Skirt Hardest-Hit Groups, the Moscow Times, June 9, 2006. <http://www.moscowtimes.ru/stories/2006/06/09/011.html>.

⁴⁸⁴ HIV/AIDS in Eurasia and the Role of the G8, International Conference in Conjunction with Russia's G8 Presidency, Transatlantic Partners Against Aids Website, June 8, 2006. <http://www.tpaa.net/events/?id=522>.

⁴⁸⁵ Kano, S and M. Kimura. Trends in Malaria Cases in Japan, Research Institute, International Medical Center of Japan, February 2004. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list_uids=14744553&dopt=Citation.

⁴⁸⁶ Health and Development Initiative: Japan's Contribution to Achieving the Health-Related MDGs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, June 2005. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/health_c/forum0506/hdi.pdf.

⁴⁸⁷ Roll Back Malaria Partnership, The World Health Organization website. http://www.rbm.who.int/docs/rbm_brochure.pdf, p.8

⁴⁸⁸ Health and Development Initiative, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/health_c/forum0506/hdi.pdf.

⁴⁸⁹ Health and Development Initiative: Japan's Contribution to Achieving the Health-Related MDGs, 2005.

⁴⁹⁰ Health and Development Initiative: Japan's Contribution to Achieving the Health-Related MDGs, 2005.

⁴⁹¹ Colley, D. Parasitic Diseases: Opportunities and Challenges in the 21st Century, National Centre for Infectious Diseases, US Department of Health and Human Services, 2000, p.5. <http://www.scielo.br/pdf/mioc/v95s1/v95s1a15.pdf>.

⁴⁹² Partners' Directory, Stop TB Partnership website. http://www.stoptb.org/partners/partner_profile.asp?PartnerID=1386.

⁴⁹³ Chair's Summary, G8 Commitment to Help Stop Polio Forever, G8 Sea Island, 10 June 2005. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/polio.html>.

⁴⁹⁴ Health and Development Initiative: Japan's Contribution to Achieving the Health-Related MDGs, June 2005.

May 2006, the World Health Assembly noted that due to the efforts of member countries, “the number of countries with indigenous poliovirus transmission is at a historic low, and that outbreaks in re-infected countries have been systematically stopped or slowed”.⁴⁹⁵

Polio, measles, and other preventable infectious diseases

Measles has been a significant health concern in Japan. Since 1978, measles vaccinations have been part of Japan’s national Immunization Law, and it is given to children aged 12-19 months.⁴⁹⁶ The government has supported routine vaccinations and surveillance of the disease, and will continue to provide increased assistance to children with regular check-ups and other preventative interventions.⁴⁹⁷ Japan and its G8 partners also continue to support the work of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), which has brought together an international coalition of institutions and organizations concerned with providing vaccines for children in poor countries.⁴⁹⁸ Working with the G8, Japan wants to deliver vaccines worldwide to prevent and eradicate measles and other preventable diseases.

Japan proposed the Global Parasite Control Initiative (GPCI), also known as the Hashimoto Initiative, at the 1997 Denver Summit.⁴⁹⁹ Japan highlighted the relevance of international cooperation to control parasitic diseases, and a report entitled “The Global Parasite Control for the 21st Century” was then prepared for the 1998 Birmingham Summit. In this report, Japan expressed its intention to help developing countries improve their capacity and information exchange for parasitic diseases control by establishing three research centers in Asia and Africa.

The Friends of the Global Fund, Japan (FGFJ), is an example of the private-public sector co-operation the G8 is advocating. FGFJ works in conjunction with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to allocate resources to fight these diseases on a global scale. FGFJ raises its funds from governmental and nongovernmental organizations, and works with national governments, UN organizations, NGOs, researchers, private business, and local communities towards the prevention, treatment, and care of preventable infectious diseases.⁵⁰⁰

Epidemics caused by natural calamities and humanitarian crises

Given the number of recent natural disasters around the world, Japan is working with other G8 countries to provide timely and effective international responses. The destruction of healthcare infrastructure from a disaster can be the breeding ground for infectious diseases, and response preparedness will feature on this year’s summit agenda to discuss advanced planning, prevention activities, and local volunteer training.⁵⁰¹ The G8 is encouraging governments to develop clear policies to determine the role of the central government in crises management, and asking all disaster management personnel to assess the risk of certain types of disasters, and prepare structural and non-structural measures for crisis mitigation.⁵⁰²

⁴⁹⁵ GPEI, World Health Assembly, 22-26 May 2006.

http://www.polioeradication.org/meeting_detail.asp?day=26&month=5&year=2006.

⁴⁹⁶ Nakatani, H, S. Tadashi and T. Iuchi, Development of Vaccination Policy: Current Issues and Policy Directions, 2002.

http://www.technet21.org/pdf_file/JapaneseVaccinationPolicy.pdf.

⁴⁹⁷ Health and Development Initiative: Japan’s Contribution to Achieving the Health-Related MDGs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, June 2005. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/health_c/forum0506/hdi.pdf.

⁴⁹⁸ GAVI Alliance, 2006. http://www.gavialliance.org/General_Information/About_alliance/index.php.

⁴⁹⁹ Japan’s Initiative in the Fight against Infectious and Parasitic Diseases on the occasion of the Kyushu-Okinawa G8 Summit. July 2000. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/infectious.htm>.

⁵⁰⁰ Friends of the Global Fund, Japan website. <http://www.icie.or.jp/fqfi/e/fqfi.html>.

⁵⁰¹ Infectious Diseases, Official website of the G8 presidency of the Russian federation. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/>

⁵⁰² Infectious Diseases, Official website of the G8 presidency of the Russian federation, 2006.

Bioterrorism

The critical threat of international terrorist attacks has necessitated increased cooperation and coordination among the G8 member states. Japan is recognized by the G8 as playing a leadership role in the area of public health security, with initiatives in health preparedness and response to chemical threats.⁵⁰³ The G8 requires this work for chemical threats and public health responses. G8 countries have used a risk prioritization tool, called a *risk matrix*, to indicate the level at which health policies are being maintained in each country. A risk matrix allows the G8 to collaborate on public health threats from the release of hazardous chemicals.

Japan will participate in the Working Group on Chemical Events this year to develop workshops on chemical threats, and to test G8 international communications and public health preparedness.⁵⁰⁴ Japan will also host the Seventh Ministerial Meeting on Health Security and Biodiversity in late 2006.

Conclusion

The Japanese government has shown a strong historical commitment to engaging with civil society, international institutions, and the private sector in the pursuit of national, regional, and global health priorities. Japan has been particularly active in fostering dialogue and collaboration on the regional threats of HIV/AIDS and avian influenza with its neighboring states, while consistently supporting financially the work of global health initiatives such as the Global Fund, GPEI, GAVI, and The Global Plan to Stop TB.

At the St. Petersburg Summit, Japan will likely call for all countries to help support the UN's health MDGs, in order to increase human security around the world. Prime Minister Koizumi will support his G8 counterparts in emphasizing the importance of global health governance talks, and in highlighting the need for effective national and international responses to crises in order to prevent epidemics. Japan will reiterate its support in the fight to eradicate preventable infectious diseases. Prime Minister Koizumi will most likely emphasize his country's commitment to assist developing countries through continued funding and programs to improve health worker skills, health systems, and family and community practices. In order to bring about more security of the person and health sector reforms, PM Koizumi will likely reiterate his disdain for corrupt leaders in developing countries. Lastly, the Japanese PM can be expected to mention the necessity of continuing the research path towards a universal access HIV vaccine.

**Compiled by:
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⁵⁰³ Global Health Security Initiative, Sixth Ministerial Meeting on Health Security and Bioterrorism, Rome, November 18, 2005.
<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/health/rome2005.html>.

⁵⁰⁴ Sixth Ministerial Meeting on Health Security and Biodiversity, Rome, November 18, 2005.
<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/health/rome2005.html>.

Russia

G8 members have welcomed Russia's initiative in placing global health and particularly the fight against infectious diseases high on the agenda at the upcoming G8 Summit in St. Petersburg this July.⁵⁰⁵ Unlike previous summits, it is anticipated that G8 leaders will discuss "a whole range of problems involved in the struggle against infectious diseases," from specific issues involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB), malaria, and measles, to efforts to prevent the outbreaks of infectious diseases during natural and technological disasters. President Putin stated that G8 members needed to turn their attention to consolidating a global network of information and analysis monitoring to address the emergence and spread of diseases.⁵⁰⁶ Other issues on the health agenda include making treatment of infectious diseases accessible to as many people as possible.⁵⁰⁷

Health ministers from the G8 countries and India, China, Mexico, Brazil and South Africa (known as the G5) and representatives from the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and UNAIDS met for the first time in Moscow on 28 April 2006 to discuss the health issues on the agenda of the St. Petersburg Summit.⁵⁰⁸ At the meeting, Russia's Minister of Health and Social Development emphasized the importance of the infectious diseases priority and expressed his desire to have included on the G8 agenda, discussion on the creation of international rapid-response units to combat pandemics that arise in the wake of natural disasters.⁵⁰⁹ The heads-of-state from the G5 and the Acting Director-General of the WHO, Anders Nordström, have been invited to attend the 2006 G8 Summit.

Russia has made significant advances in its contributions to global health through bilateral and multilateral efforts, coordinated primarily by the Ministry of Health and Social Development and the Russian Foreign Ministry. However, it continues to struggle with significant health issues within its own borders. Russia's efforts to address the spread of infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and emerging threats such as avian influenza in the country is a crucial contribution to the international effort to improve health worldwide.

Compliance Performance⁵¹⁰

Consistent with the high compliance levels maintained by most G8 members with the Genoa health commitments for 2001 to 2002, Russia pledged US\$19.2 million to the newly launched Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria on 20 July 2001.⁵¹¹ The pledged amount, however, accounted for only 1.18% of the country's total GDP, the lowest share within the G8 membership for the 2000 fiscal year.⁵¹² Russia achieved full compliance with its Evian health commitments for 2003 and 2004 as the government implemented extensive domestic policies to address the spread of HIV/AIDS and contributed to the establishment of the organization and legal framework of the Global Fund.⁵¹³ By the end of 2003, Russia was scheduled to have increased its contribution to the Global Fund by an estimated US\$5 million

⁵⁰⁵ The Problem - Fighting Infectious Diseases, Official Website of the G8 Presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/>

⁵⁰⁶ Vladimir V. Putin, The Upcoming G8 Summit in St. Petersburg: Challenges, Opportunities and Responsibility, Official Website of the G8 Presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006. 1 March 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/news/20060301/1144146.html>

⁵⁰⁷ The Problem – Fighting Infectious Diseases, 2005-2006. Official Website of the G8 Presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/diseases/>

⁵⁰⁸ Statement of G8 Health Ministers, Official Website of the G8 Presidency of the Russian Federation in 2006 (Moscow), 28 April 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/healthmins/health060428.html>

⁵⁰⁹ Health Minister urges international action to prevent pandemics, RIA Novosti (Moscow), 28 April 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://en.rian.ru/russia/20060428/47005672.html>

⁵¹⁰ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁵¹¹ 2001 Genoa Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) June 2002. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDiseases.pdf>

⁵¹² 2001 Genoa Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) June 2002. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDiseases.pdf>

⁵¹³ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report, Health: AIDS and Infectious Diseases, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

each year from 2004 to 2006.⁵¹⁴ In 2005, however, the country failed to comply with its Sea Island 'HIV/AIDS commitments' (2004-2005), as government officials did not explicitly support the establishment of research centres and trials necessary for the development of a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise.⁵¹⁵ Russian Chairman M. Fradakov, however, announced that an additional pledge of US\$4 million would be made to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) to help close the GPEI funding gap, allowing the country to register full compliance with its Sea Island 'polio commitments' (2004-2005).⁵¹⁶

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Avian Influenza

In January 2006, Russian Health and Social Development Minister Mikhail Zurabov stated during a government meeting that as of 7 January 2006, health checks and quarantine monitoring of people entering Russia from Turkey, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan had been “stepped up” at checkpoints along the Russian border, and that a plan of prevention measures against avian influenza had already been “drawn up”.⁵¹⁷ During a meeting with representatives of Russian NGOs in early February, Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov proposed the adoption of a “Plan of Action to Combat Bird Flu and Prevent a New Pandemic of Human Influenza.”⁵¹⁸ Later that month, during the G8 Finance Ministers’ Meeting in Moscow, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced Russia’s recommendation of adopting an intergovernmental G8 plan of action on “curbing bird flu and averting a pandemic of flu among humans”. He also praised the results of the January conference on avian influenza in Beijing, at the end of which the donor countries had pledged to allocate US\$1.9 billion for financing the efforts to arrest the spread of the disease.⁵¹⁹ During the 26th meeting of the Committee on Economic, Commercial, Technological and Ecological Issues of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) in late March, all members – including Russia – agreed to have prepared by June 2006 a draft of recommendations “On Cooperation to Combat Bird Flu in the Black Sea Region”.⁵²⁰

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

In early July 2005, the Russian government decided to allot an extra US\$20 million to the Global Fund for 2005-2006.⁵²¹ By the end of September 2005, it was announced that Russia had paid US\$5 million in dues for 2005 to the Global Fund ahead of schedule,⁵²² and that President Putin had earmarked US\$105 million – a twenty-fold increase over the previous year – to fight HIV/AIDS in 2006.⁵²³

⁵¹⁴ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report, Health: AIDS and Infectious Diseases, May 2004, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

⁵¹⁵ Infectious Diseases: HIV/AIDS, Sea Island Final Compliance Results, July 2005, G8 Information Centre (Toronto), 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁵¹⁶ Infectious Diseases: Polio, Sea Island Final Compliance Results, July 2005, G8 Information Centre (Toronto), 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/15_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁵¹⁷ No bird flu cases in Russia, health minister tells Putin, BBC, 23 January 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006.

⁵¹⁸ Transcript of Remarks by Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov at Meeting with Representatives of Russian NGOs Associated with Foreign Policy Activities, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 3 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006.

http://www.mid.ru/bpr_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcb3/b85e7c4477ffc877c325710d0058e08a?OpenDocument

⁵¹⁹ Russia recommends adopting G8 plan against bird flu, ITAR-TASS World Service (Moscow) 11 February 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.flutrackers.com/forum/archive/index.php?t-167.html>

⁵²⁰ Meeting of the Committee on Economic, Commercial, Technological and Ecological Issues of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 30 March 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006.

http://www.mid.ru/bpr_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcb3/e67f7b75ee3b56d1c325714100594818?OpenDocument

⁵²¹ URGENT: Russia to allocate extra \$20 million to fight AIDS, TB and malaria, RIA Novosti, 7 July 2005.

⁵²² RF pays 5 mln dlrs of dues in Global AIDS Fund ahead of time, ITAR-TASS World Service, 6 September 2005.

⁵²³ World AIDS Day in World, CRIENGLISH.com, 1 December 2005. Date of Access: 8 December 2005.

<http://en.chinabroadcast.cn/537/2005/12/01/272@33731.htm>

HIV/AIDS

In early November, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Moscow Chamber of Industry and Trade and the Russian Office of UNICEF. This Memorandum was designed to ensure continued partnership within young people's health and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment programs.⁵²⁴ On 14 November 2005, Russian Deputy Health and Social Development Minister, Vladimir Starodubov, announced that Russia would allocate approximately US\$1 billion in the next five years for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs.⁵²⁵ That same day, however, Policy Director of the Treatment Action Group (TAG) criticized both China and Russia for not being able to "tackle the infection amongst their populations".⁵²⁶

In a report released in late November by UNAIDS and the WHO, it was revealed that Russia had "the biggest AIDS epidemic in all of Europe, fuelled primarily by a large number of injection drug users".⁵²⁷ According to the report, infections in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Russia were also rising due to "unprotected sex".⁵²⁸ In addition, a spokesman for UNAIDS, Bertil Lindblad, told reporters that of "the more than 40 000 000 HIV infections currently registered worldwide, about 1 000 000 [are found] in Russia".⁵²⁹ In a 90-page report released by the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition on November 28, it was argued that a "lack of a national treatment protocol,"⁵³⁰ "a faulty drug procurement system,"⁵³¹ and a "lack of national leadership"⁵³² hampered the Russian government's response to the epidemic. Shortly thereafter, the deputy of the Russian Ministry of Public Health announced that the government – in an "unprecedented effort" – would now devote US\$107 million in 2006 and another US\$267 million in 2007 to fighting the disease.⁵³³

In late April 2006, President Putin called on the State Council to introduce international AIDS monitoring standards throughout Russia, stating that the country needed "clear and objective monitoring of the epidemic... [as well as] monitoring arrangements that [would] meet common international standards".⁵³⁴ He also proposed a "long-term strategy," stating that since the beginning of the government's anti-HIV/AIDS subprogram, "the speed of the spread of HIV-infection [had] dropped by more than half in 2001 through 2005[,] from 88,000 new cases to 35,000," as the government continued to support researchers who persisted in their pursuit of finding effective AIDS treatments.⁵³⁵

On 15 May 2006, the first regional AIDS conference in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) opened in Moscow, "[underscoring] the growing momentum to scale up the AIDS response," evident in the expansion of national health spending in many countries of the region.⁵³⁶ Speaking to the media, UNAIDS Chief Peter Piot said the conference was "long overdue," as the EECA had long been facing the world's most rapidly expanding AIDS epidemic.⁵³⁷ International health experts continued to warn that

⁵²⁴ Press Release: Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Yakovenko to Attend the Signing Ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding Between Moscow Chamber of Industry and Trade and the Russian Office of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 2 November 2005. Date of Access: 8 December 2005. http://www.in.mid.ru/Brp_4.nsf/arh/BD396ED2D047E6DDC32570AD0037A5FD?OpenDocument

⁵²⁵ Russia to spend about \$ 1 billion on HIV/AIDS programs in 5 years, Interfax (Moscow), 14 November 2005.

⁵²⁶ India more keen on exporting ARV drugs than treating its people, OneWorld South Asia, 14 November 2005.

⁵²⁷ Global Challenges, KaiserNetwork.org, 21 November 2005. Date of Access: 8 December 2005.

http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=33859

⁵²⁸ 4.9m new HIV cases reported in 2005, People's Daily Online (New Delhi), 22 November 2005.

⁵²⁹ One million infected with HIV in Russia – U.N. experts, Interfax (Moscow), 21 November 2005.

⁵³⁰ Activists say bureaucracy blocks AIDS drug goal, Reuters (Johannesburg), 28 November 2005.

⁵³¹ Report lists reasons for missed AIDS goal, AP (Johannesburg), 28 November 2005.

⁵³² Drug Access, KaiserNetwork.org, 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 8 December 2005.

http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=33991

⁵³³ Global Challenges, KaiserNetwork.org, 30 November 2005. Date of Access: 8 December 2005.

http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?DR_ID=34022

⁵³⁴ Putin calls for international AIDS monitoring criteria in Russia, RIA Novosti, 21 April 2006.

⁵³⁵ Putin stresses importance of long-term AIDS strategy, Interfax, 21 April 2006. Date of Access:

⁵³⁶ First regional AIDS Conference in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, The Global Fund, 15 May 2006. Date of Access: 19 May 2006. http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/media_center/press/pr_060515.asp

⁵³⁷ AIDS conference held in Moscow, U.N. official calls it "long overdue", The China Post, 15 May 2006

the problem was “quickly moving beyond the traditional core of at-risk people – drug users, gay men and prostitutes – into the wider population”.⁵³⁸ International media outlets, however, continue to report that the disease is still little understood by Russian citizens, as in April of 2006, the Moscow City Council had moved to ask Putin to ban foreign health charities from implementing AIDS projects in the capital because “their handing out of free condoms and clean needles...undermined [Russian] morality”.

The Global Fund has so far invested US\$70 million in HIV/AIDS projects in Russia, and has approved grants worth US\$222 million over the next five years. The Russian government has continued to follow this lead by pouring millions more into AIDS programs. Critics argue, however, that there remains “widespread ignorance, prejudice and resistance – and [that] time is running out”.⁵³⁹

Malaria

By September 2005, 30 male residents of St. Petersburg had been hospitalized with typhoid diagnosis, resulting in five fatalities, while others had contracted malaria. Both diseases have traditionally been considered atypical in Russia.⁵⁴⁰ It was also announced that Russia had experienced a seasonal increase in feral herd and parasitic infections in June of 2005, including hemorrhagic fever and malaria, having experienced 150% more diagnoses than in May of the same year.⁵⁴¹

In June 2006, Russian Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin announced that Russia had reached an agreement with the World Bank requiring debtor countries to use US\$ 250 million of the US\$ 700 million in debt the country would be writing off to combat infectious diseases, primarily malaria, within African nations.⁵⁴² It was also announced that the country would increase its donations to international development programs to US\$100-150 million annually within the next few years, of which US\$45-50 million would help the World Bank to fight malaria in 17 states.⁵⁴³

Tuberculosis (TB)

By the end of January 2006, Yekaterina Kakorina – a senior Health and Social Development Ministry official – had stated that TB cases in Russia had doubled in the last 15 years, “though had recently [somewhat] ‘stabilized’”. Current statistics, moreover, show that there are 83 TB cases per 100 000 people in Russia, whereas the figures for Western Europe amount to 7 to 10 cases. Nevertheless, Kakorina went on to assert that medical institutions would soon be supplied with 696 units of fixed and 200 units of mobile equipment designed to diagnose TB in its early stages. US\$71.5 million in federal funds would also be allocated to conduct medical examinations of citizens in the 35 – 55 age bracket.⁵⁴⁴

Polio and other preventable infectious diseases

Hours before the start of the summit at Gleneagles in July 2005, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Yakovenko stated that, over the years, Russia had continued to earmark several million US dollars for polio eradication programs in Africa.⁵⁴⁵ In August 2005, it was announced that scientists from the United States and Russia had determined that amplified full-length viral DNA could be used for preliminary screening of clinical samples, thus “avoiding the need for cell culture isolation [and]

⁵³⁸ Russia said to be on edge of AIDS crisis, Associated Press, 15 May 2006.

⁵³⁹ HIV infection rates raise fears of AIDS catastrophe in Russia, The Independent, 31 May 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://news.independent.co.uk/europe/article622116.ece>

⁵⁴⁰ The Hygienic and Epidemiological Situation in St. Petersburg, A & G Information Services: Comtex, 19 September 2005.

⁵⁴¹ Public Health in Russia in June 2005, Interfax: Statistical Report, 22 September 2005.

⁵⁴² Russia to forgive \$700 million in debt owed by poorest countries, Associated Press Newswire (St. Petersburg), 9 June 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/world/20060609-0926-russia-g-8-financemeeting.html>

⁵⁴³ Russia to increase donations to int'l development programs, ITAR-TASS World Service (St. Petersburg), 9 June 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.itar-tass.com/eng/level2.html?NewsID=9824027&PageNum=0>

⁵⁴⁴ 119,000 TB cases in Russia – health official, RIA Novosti (Moscow), 27 January 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. <http://en.rian.ru/russia/20060127/43221133.html>

⁵⁴⁵ Russia to side with developing nations on WMD, climate change, The Press Trust of India Limited, 6 July 2005.

dramatically [shortening] the time needed” for polio diagnosis.⁵⁴⁶ From 17-23 October 2005, Russia followed the lead of dozens of its European neighbors when its health centers offered free vaccinations against polio, tetanus, diphtheria, whooping-cough and influenza.⁵⁴⁷

Following the G8 Finance Ministers’ Meeting in Moscow in February of 2006, Russian Finance Minister Alexei Kudrin stated that ministers had talked about the “replenishment of the funds set up to fight AIDS, TB and malaria,” as well as “the question of additional measures to control the spread of ... bird flu and prevention of other diseases, including polio”.⁵⁴⁸

Epidemics caused by natural calamities and humanitarian crises

In February 2006, during a meeting with representatives of Russian NGOs, Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov highlighted the need to address the “relatively new problem” tackling diseases that result from natural disasters. In answer to this threat, Minister Lavrov proposed the development “of a complex set of measures to prevent the epidemiological consequences of natural disasters.”⁵⁴⁹

Conclusion

The G8 Summit in St. Petersburg in July 2006 will provide Russia with the opportunity to reinvigorate the fight against infectious diseases. Russian officials, including President Vladimir Putin and Minister of Health and Social Development Mikhail Zurabov, have repeatedly stated their intentions to not only bolster support for existing global programs such as the Global Fund and the GPEI, but also to direct attention to the issues of emerging epidemics and pandemics, the determinants of their proliferation, and ways in which to mount a more collective and coordinated G8 response. Although Russia is the “leading source of new infections” among G8 countries, its effort to make infectious diseases and global health a priority issue alongside energy security and education, demonstrates a desire to curb the spread of disease in the Eurasian region and globally. It remains to be seen whether summit commitments will reflect Russian priorities.

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⁵⁴⁶ U.S. Food & Drug Administration; Genomic analysis of vaccine-derived poliovirus strains reported, Biotech Week, 17 August 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.newsrx.com/newsletters/Biotech-Week/2005-08-17/081720053331053UW.html>

⁵⁴⁷ Mass free immunization week starts in Russia, BBC Monitoring Former Soviet Union, 17 October 2005.

⁵⁴⁸ Press Conference with Minister of Finance Alexei Kudrin Following G8 Finance Ministers Meeting in Moscow (Part 1), Federal News Service, 11 February 2006.

⁵⁴⁹ Transcript of Remarks by Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Sergey Lavrov at Meeting with Representatives of Russian NGOs Associated with Foreign Policy Activities, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 3 February 2006. Date of Access: 16 May 2006. http://www.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b43256999005bcbb3/b85e7c4477ffc877c325710d0058e08a?OpenDocument

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom (UK) government's longstanding commitment to taking a leadership role in the promotion of global health initiatives are achieved primarily through the coordinated activities of the Department of Health (DH), the National Health Service (NHS), the Health Protection Agency (HPA), and the Department for International Development (DFID).

Compliance Performance⁵⁵⁰

Initially, the UK focused its health policy initiatives on domestic issues. The 2000 Okinawa Summit was devoted to finding solutions to the problems that resulted from an aging population within the G8 member countries. At the 2001 Genoa Summit, the UK government concentrated on improving the country's NHS to create a health system that would be fitting for the new millennium.⁵⁵¹ However, a crucial change occurred with the creation of the Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis at the Okinawa Summit. Although still primarily concerned with domestic health issues, the UK government's 2002 pledge of US\$200 million to the Global Fund was a significant contribution relative to the contributions of other G8 countries.⁵⁵²

The UK stepped up its pledge to the Global Fund at the 2003 Evian Summit with a contribution of US\$40 million,⁵⁵³ and in 2004, the UK declared an additional US\$3 million contribution to the World Health Organization's (WHO) 3 x 5 initiative that would treat 3 million people with HIV/AIDS by 2005.⁵⁵⁴ At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, the UK continued its support for global health initiatives by signing onto a declaration with other European Union (EU) member states calling for increased coordination and financing of AIDS Vaccine Research.⁵⁵⁵

At the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, the UK took a leadership role in bringing Africa and thus, African health issues to the forefront of the agenda. In particular, the UK emphasized the HIV/AIDS pandemic on the continent and the detrimental effects of other infectious diseases, including malaria and tuberculosis (TB).⁵⁵⁶ The UK and its fellow G8 member states committed themselves to work with the WHO, UNAIDS, and other international bodies for HIV prevention and "as close as possible to universal access by 2010."⁵⁵⁷

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Avian Influenza

Recently, it has been feared that a global pandemic of avian influenza could occur and potentially gravely affect the UK. The UK government has accordingly concentrated on domestic initiatives that would safeguard their country from such a threat. As of 25 October 2005, 14.6 million courses of anti-viral drug

⁵⁵⁰ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁵⁵¹ Country Objectives for the Genoa Summit Meeting 2001: United Kingdom, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 2001. Date of Access: 30 December 2005. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDiseases.pdf>

⁵⁵² 2001 Genoa Compliance Report: Fighting the Spread of HIV/AIDS and other Infectious Diseases, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 30 December 2005.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDiseases.pdf>

⁵⁵³ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report – Health: Disease and Infectious Diseases, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2005. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

⁵⁵⁴ 2003 Evian Final Compliance Report – Health: Disease and Infectious Diseases, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2004. Date of Access: 30 December 2005. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003evian_comp_final/08-2003evian_aids.pdf

⁵⁵⁵ 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Report – Infectious Disease: HIV, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 28 December 2005. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁵⁵⁶ Gleneagles 2005: Chairman's Summary, Gleneagles Summit Documents (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 16 June 2006. <http://www.number-10.gov.uk/output/Page7883.asp>

⁵⁵⁷ The Gleneagles Communiqué: Gleneagles Summit Documents (London) July 2005. Date of Access: 16 June 2006. http://www.fco.gov.uk/Files/kfile/PostG8_Gleneagles_Communique.0.pdf

are being manufactured with 2.5 million doses already available and 800 000 courses arriving monthly.⁵⁵⁸ Officials are confident that if a pandemic occurs, they will have enough vaccines for the entire UK population. In addition, the UK has given GBP£0.5 million to the World Health Organization for surveillance, which is, however, a relatively small amount for an issue that has such dire global health implications.⁵⁵⁹ The Health Protection Agency released the “UK Influenza Pandemic Contingency Plan” on October 2005. The 177-page report extensively outlines strategies such as the effective use of anti-viral drugs, surveillance, and how health officials and workers would respond in the case of an influenza pandemic.⁵⁶⁰

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

The UK was one of the first donors to the Global Fund, with a total contribution from 2001-2007 of GBP£268 million.⁵⁶¹ Among the G8 member states, the UK has contributed one of the highest amounts, behind only the United States and France. In August 2005, the UK increased their funding to GBP£200 million for 2006 and 2007, after having originally pledged only half that amount.⁵⁶² In a further attempt to tackle these diseases on a global scale, the UK is currently investing in the development of vaccines and drugs to combat HIV/AIDS, TB, and other ‘neglected diseases’.⁵⁶³ The UK is also currently attempting to improve access to essential medicines to combat these diseases by working to further reduce drug prices and by helping developing countries to avail themselves more effectively of the World Trade Organization’s TRIPS (Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights) agreement.⁵⁶⁴

HIV/AIDS

The UK feels strongly about the global fight to end the suffering caused by HIV/AIDS. The Gleneagles communiqué stated:

“With the aim of an AIDS-free generation in Africa, [we will work to] significantly reduce HIV infections and, working with WHO, UNAIDS and other international bodies to develop and implement a package of HIV prevention, treatment, and care, with the aim of as close possible to universal access to treatment for all those who need it by 2010.”⁵⁶⁵

The UK has been lacking in policy initiatives for vaccine research and distribution. However, in November 2005, DFID pledged GBP£7.5 million until 2008 toward the International Partnership of Microbicides, which is a substantial increase from GBP£1.2 million that was pledged in 2002-2003.⁵⁶⁶ In addition, the Prime Minister declared on December 2005 that the UK would contribute GBP£20 million until 2009 to the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI).⁵⁶⁷ Overall, the UK will commit GBP£1.5 billion to help stop the

⁵⁵⁸ House of Commons Minutes of Evidence, Science and Technology Committee – Avian Influenza, The United Kingdom Parliament (London) 30 November 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200506/cmselect/cmsctech/c713-i/c71302.htm>

⁵⁵⁹ House of Commons Minutes of Evidence, Science and Technology Committee – Avian Influenza, The United Kingdom Parliament (London) 30 November 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200506/cmselect/cmsctech/c713-i/c71302.htm>

⁵⁶⁰ Pandemic Flu: UK Health Departments’ UK Influenza Pandemic Contingency Plan, Department of Health (London) October 2005. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/12/17/44/04121744.pdf>

⁵⁶¹ Pledge and Contributions, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 31 December 2005. Date of Access 3 January 2006. http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/funds_raised/pledges/

⁵⁶² UK doubles support for the Global Fund in 2006 & 2007, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Geneva) 3 August 2005. Date of Access 28 December 2005. http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/media_center/press/pr_050803.asp

⁵⁶³ Speech: Meeting our promises in poor countries, Department for International Development (London) 15 June 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/Speeches/healthcare-promises.asp>

⁵⁶⁴ Speech: Meeting our promises in poor countries, Department for International Development (London) 15 June 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/Speeches/healthcare-promises.asp>

⁵⁶⁵ HIV/AIDS Factsheet, Department for International Development (London) November 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/mdg-factsheets/hivandaidsfactsheet.pdf>

⁵⁶⁶ HIV/AIDS Factsheet, Department for International Development (London) November 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/mdg-factsheets/hivandaidsfactsheet.pdf>

⁵⁶⁷ New UK Funding for Global AIDS Battle as Europe Backs Greater Support for HIV Prevention, UNAIDS (Geneva) 1 December 2005. Date of Access 30 December 2005. http://www.unaids.org/html/pub/media/press-releases03/pr_dfid_01dec05_en_pdf.pdf

spread of HIV/AIDS. GBP£44 million will be given to UNAIDS and GBP£80 million will be given to the United Nations Population Fund. A substantial amount of this money will be targeted assistance to marginalized groups, such as women and children in Africa.⁵⁶⁸ The UK feels a responsibility to reduce the number of HIV/AIDS infections worldwide. This commitment resonates in the words of Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown, Chancellor of Exchequer, who stated that a contribution towards HIV/AIDS is "...one of the best investments the world can make."⁵⁶⁹

Malaria and Tuberculosis (TB)

The UK has committed to initiatives set in the Global Plan to Stop TB and the Global Strategic Plan to Roll Back Malaria. The DFID report "The Challenge of TB and Malaria Control," published in December 2005, outlines what the UK intends to do to control TB and malaria. To continue the fight against these infectious diseases, the UK has pledged GBP£5 million over the span of three years to the Global Plan to Stop TB.⁵⁷⁰ The report states that in January 2005, Prime Minister Tony Blair urged the G8 members to increase the distribution of insecticide treated nettings (ITN). In January 2005, Prime Minister Blair also promised GBP£45 million to provide ITNs for children and pregnant women in Africa.⁵⁷¹ It has been noted that the use of these nets can decrease the infant mortality rate by 20 percent.⁵⁷²

Additionally, DFID has allocated GBP£28 million with the World Bank to be distributed over seven years and to help China reduce TB deaths through the implementation of a national programme directed toward the poor.⁵⁷³ In Andra Pradesh, India, DFID has allocated GBP£20 million to improve TB services to the poor and marginalized groups.⁵⁷⁴ DFID also contributed GBP£7.5 million to Malawi between 2004 and 2005 to support their Expanded Programme of Immunisation and Malaria preventative strategies, which will increase the use of ITNs five-fold in two years. Recently, DFID contributed GBP£100 million to their Essential Health Programme over six years.⁵⁷⁵ The UK has been a lead player in the international arena in attempts to reduce the spread of these two deadly infectious diseases.

Polio

The UK government has been at the forefront, compared to its fellow G8 members, in terms of its contributions to help eradicate polio through the WHO sponsored Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).⁵⁷⁶ In total, the UK has provided US\$ 571 million to the GPEI from 1988-2006.⁵⁷⁷ At the 2005 Gleneagles summit, the UK pledged US\$108 million over three years to the GPEI, with an immediate contribution of US\$36 million to allow for the successful completion of initiatives by the end of 2005.⁵⁷⁸ In

⁵⁶⁸ HIV/AIDS Factsheet, Department for International Development (London) November 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/mdg-factsheets/hivandaidsfactsheet.pdf>

⁵⁶⁹ A comprehensive plan for HIV/AIDS, HM Treasury (London) 12 January 2005. Date of Access 30 December 2005. http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/newsroom_and_speeches/speeches/chancellor/exchequer/speechy_chx_130105.cfm.

⁵⁷⁰ The Challenge of TB and Malaria Control, Department for International Development (London) December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/tb-malaria-control.pdf>

⁵⁷¹ UK takes lead in preventing malaria deaths, Department for International Development (London) 27 January 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2005. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/pr-ukmalaria27jan05.asp>

⁵⁷² UK takes lead in preventing malaria deaths, Department for International Development (London) 27 January 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2005. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/pr-ukmalaria27jan05.asp>

⁵⁷³ The Challenge of TB and Malaria Control, Department for International Development (London) December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/tb-malaria-control.pdf>

⁵⁷⁴ The Challenge of TB and Malaria Control, Department for International Development (London) December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/tb-malaria-control.pdf>

⁵⁷⁵ The Challenge of TB and Malaria Control, Department for International Development (London) December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/tb-malaria-control.pdf>

⁵⁷⁶ Polio News, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) Summer 2005. Date of Access: 04 January 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>

⁵⁷⁷ Tony Blair receives award for UK's fight to create a Polio-Free world, Department for International Development, (London), 11 May 2006. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/polio-rotary.asp>

⁵⁷⁸ Polio News, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) Summer 2005. Date of Access: 04 January 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>

2006-2008, it will pledge the remaining amount, allowing 500 million children to be vaccinated, paying health workers to carry out the immunization, and investing in laboratories for further research.⁵⁷⁹

Measles and other preventable infectious diseases

The UK government has also recognized the importance of addressing other 'neglected' infectious diseases, particularly in the developing world. Accordingly, in the wake of the devastating earthquake that hit Indonesia in May 2006, the UK contributed GBP£4 million in aid to relief operations, allocating a portion of this contribution towards assisting the Indonesian government to implement the mass measles program which it began on 31 May 2006.⁵⁸⁰

Access to treatment and prevention

In order to promote global health, all aspects of society must come together and work collectively. The International Health Partners (IHP), based in the UK, has attempted to bring the "pharmaceutical industry, the medical community, aid organisations, government, and concerned individuals in a partnership for delivering donated medicines to the poorest part of the world."⁵⁸¹ In October 2005, GBP£200,000 of essential medicines, along with urgently-needed surgical supplies, were donated by pharmaceutical companies across the UK to Pakistan for use in clinics following the earthquake that shook the country in 2005.⁵⁸² Additionally, the IHP has helped the Republic of Maldives to rebuild its health services after the earthquake. Over GBP£3.5 million of "top quality primary health care medicines and medical supplies have been donated to the developing world by the UK industry through IHP."⁵⁸³

In September 2005, the UK furthered its contribution to global health initiatives when, along with Italy, France, Sweden, and Spain, it launched the International Financing Facility for Immunization (IFFIm). The IFFIm is an innovative new financing institution that aims to ensure the provision of an additional US\$4 billion over the next ten years in support of the work of the Vaccine Fund and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI).⁵⁸⁴

On 15 June 2006, UK Secretary of State of International Development, Hilary Benn, addressed the issue of the lack of trained staff and poor healthcare systems in the developing world, which remains a stumbling block to achieving many of the Millennium Development Goals. One of the initiatives currently being implemented by the UK to tackle this issue in Malawi is the dedication of £100 million to an "emergency programme... which aims to double the number of nurses and triple the number of doctors, provide better training, and pay them better".⁵⁸⁵ Benn also called for similar initiatives to take place in over sixty countries, and recognized the shortcomings of the UK and its fellow G8 members in their failure to invest enough in healthcare in developing countries, in research and global public goods and to promote universal access to drugs.⁵⁸⁶ The UK's example should encourage other G8 member countries to see the dire need to place development of healthcare in developing countries as one of their top priorities, since basic infrastructure, such as hospitals and staffing, will dictate the success of any global health initiative.

⁵⁷⁹ Polio News, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) Summer 2005. Date of Access: 04 January 2006.

⁵⁸⁰ <http://www.polioeradication.org/content/polionews/PolioNews24.pdf>

⁵⁸¹ Indonesian Earthquake: UK Government, Department for International Development (London) 30 May 2006. Date of Access: 21 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/emergencies/indonesia/siterep3.asp>

⁵⁸² International Health Partners, International Health Partners (East Sussex) October 2005. Date of Access: 3 May 2006.

⁵⁸³ <http://www.ihpuk.org/corporatepartners/partners.htm>

⁵⁸⁴ £200,000 of essential medicines sent to Pakistan for use in clinics and operating theatres in Kashmir, International Health Partners (East Sussex) 31 October 2005. Date of Access: 3 May 2006. <http://www.ihpuk.org/news/nr11.htm>

⁵⁸⁵ IHP to help accelerate reconstruction of Maldives health service, international Health Partners (East Sussex). 20 June 2005. Date of Access: 3 May 2006. <http://www.ihpuk.org/news/nr9.htm>

⁵⁸⁶ International Finance Facility, HM Treasury (London). Date of Access: 22 June 2006.

http://www.hmtreasury.gov.uk/documents/international_issues/international_development/development_iff.cfm

⁵⁸⁷ Speech: Meeting our promises in poor countries, Department for International Development (London) 15 June 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/Speeches/healthcare-promises.asp>

⁵⁸⁸ Speech: Meeting our promises in poor countries, Department for International Development (London) 15 June 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/Speeches/healthcare-promises.asp>

Epidemics caused by natural calamities and humanitarian crises

In recognition of the fact that natural disasters hit the poorest regions of the world the hardest and kill over 70 000 people on average every year,⁵⁸⁷ the DFID funds disaster risk reduction programmes with contributions of GBP£16 million every five years.⁵⁸⁸ The DFID is currently providing GBP£3.75 million over three years in support of the Pan American Health Organisation's work to reduce the vulnerability of Caribbean states' health sectors to natural disasters.⁵⁸⁹

The UK government's GBP£4 million contribution to assist the Indonesian government following the recent earthquake in that region will also go towards developing a disease surveillance system,⁵⁹⁰ a crucial measure to detect and prevent epidemics resulting from natural disasters.

Conclusion

The UK has made great strides in complying with the G8 goals in global health. In order for the UK to further accomplish the goals of the Global Fund, especially reducing the incidence of HIV/AIDS infection, the UK must take initiatives to make essential medicine affordable to developing countries. At the upcoming St. Petersburg Summit extensive policy implementation on vaccination development and accessibility could create a more holistic approach to improving global health.

At St. Petersburg, Prime Minister Tony Blair can be expected to highlight the UK's contribution to the work of international global health initiatives, particularly its commitment to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS through the Global Fund and its strong record as a leader among G8 countries in contributing to the GPEI. Consistent with the recent statements of Secretary of State of International Development Benn, Prime Minister Blair will likely emphasize the need for the G8 member states to step up their efforts in promoting institutional healthcare infrastructure in developing countries and to increase their investment in research and development of new, accessible drugs to treat infectious diseases. Finally, Prime Minister Blair can be expected to acknowledge the global threat of an avian influenza epidemic and to suggest a multi-sectoral, global approach to guarding against this threat.

Compiled by:
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⁵⁸⁷ Poor are worst affected by natural disasters, Department for International Development (London) 22 March 2005. Date of Access: 23 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pr-poor-natural-disasters-full.pdf>

⁵⁸⁸ Frequently asked questions on disaster risk reduction, Department for International Development (London). Date of Access: 23 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/disaster-risk-reduction-faqs.asp>

⁵⁸⁹ Frequently asked questions on disaster risk reduction, Department for International Development (London). Date of Access: 23 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/disaster-risk-reduction-faqs.asp>

⁵⁹⁰ Indonesian Earthquake: UK Government, Department for International Development, (London), 30 May 2006. Date of Access: 21 June 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/emergencies/indonesia/siterep3.asp>

United States

The G8's commitment to global health, re-affirmed at the past five summits, is consistent with domestic American policy. The US Department of Health and Human Services and the (HHS) US Agency for International Development (USAID) currently maintains several initiatives targeting key aspects of global health, particularly infectious diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis (TB), avian influenza, HIV/AIDS, and polio. The US has also spearheaded several multilateral initiatives, such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza (IPAPI), to combat issues of global health.

Compliance Performance⁵⁹¹

Global health has traditionally been a strong area for US compliance with its G8 commitments. The US government continues to support cooperative efforts for vaccine research and development, including multilateral initiatives such as the New Partnership Initiative⁵⁹², in accordance with commitments made at Sea Island in 2004.⁵⁹³ However, the US has not yet fully complied with its pledge to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, as per the commitments made at the summit in Genoa in 2001.⁵⁹⁴ To date, the US government's contribution to the Fund has been US\$1 495 617 529, only 59% of the total US\$2 540 117 529 pledged.⁵⁹⁵ Furthermore, the pledge falls far short of the expected US contribution of US\$601.1 million (as would be proportional to its GDP).⁵⁹⁶ The US has, however, achieved full compliance in the area of polio eradication,⁵⁹⁷ fulfilling objectives from the 2004 "G8 commitment to stop Polio Forever".⁵⁹⁸ The US government has consistently received positive compliance ratings as a result of its standing as the largest federal donor to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), registering donations of over \$500 million to date.⁵⁹⁹

Current Policy Initiatives and Contributions

Pandemic Influenzas

In September 2005, US President Bush launched the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza (IPAPI), a multilateral initiative coordinating the efforts of 88 states and eight international organizations in the area of influenza prevention, preparedness, and response. Meant to strengthen existing programs and institutions, IPAPI emphasizes global cooperation, transparency in influenza-related operations, coordination of research and prevention efforts, and resource mobilization.⁶⁰⁰ In October 2005, the US government hosted a meeting of the IPAPI's members and emphasized the

⁵⁹¹ Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>.

⁵⁹² 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Report - Infectious Diseases: HIV/AIDS, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/14_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁵⁹³ Sea Island Summit Documents: G8 Action to Endorse and Establish a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/hiv.html>

⁵⁹⁴ 2001 Genoa Compliance Report - Infectious Diseases: HIV/AIDS and other Infectious Diseases, G8 Research Group (Toronto) June 6th 2002. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDiseases.pdf>

⁵⁹⁵ The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: Pledges, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, 1 April 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.theglobalfund.org/en/files/pledges&contributions.xls>

⁵⁹⁶ 2001 Genoa Compliance Report - Infectious Diseases: HIV/AIDS and other Infectious Diseases, G8 Research Group (Toronto), June 6th 2002. Date of Access: 14 June 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDiseases.pdf>

⁵⁹⁷ 2004 Sea Island Final Compliance Report - Infectious Diseases: Polio, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1 July 2005. Date of Access: 14 June 2006. http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2004seaisland_final/15_2004_seaisland_final.pdf

⁵⁹⁸ Summit Documents: G8 Commitment to Help Stop Polio Forever, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 10 June 2004. Date of Access: 17 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/polio.html>

⁵⁹⁹ Donors Profile for Received and Pledged Contributions 1988-2008. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative. 19 December 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/poliodonors.asp>

⁶⁰⁰ US Launches International partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza, United States Department of State (Washington) 22 September 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2005/53865.htm>

importance of international transparency in operations (particularly in the detection of outbreaks) and research.⁶⁰¹

To date, the US government has pledged US\$334 million to combat and contain avian and pandemic influenza internationally.⁶⁰² Funds have been distributed to Southeast Asia, Europe, Eurasia, Africa, and Latin America in targeted initiatives dependent on existent threat levels. In addition, USAID has distributed over US\$10 million in funds for technical assistance in containment, public education, and laboratory diagnosis to combat avian influenza in Southeast Asia.⁶⁰³

The funds committed by the US government to USAID activities represent a portion of the total US\$3.8 billion allocated by Congress to American preparation for pandemic influenza, of which the vast majority (US\$3.3 billion) has been allocated to the HHS for domestic initiatives.⁶⁰⁴ HHS has led domestic initiatives to prepare for avian or pandemic influenzas, as outlined in the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza. The National Strategy, released in November 2005 by the White House, outlines a national response plan to ensure the maintenance of infrastructure in case of an outbreak, accumulating ample stockpiles of vaccines and anti-viral drugs, and participating in the containment of influenza outbreaks internationally.⁶⁰⁵ Scientists supported by National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) are currently testing vaccines developed against the H9N2 and H5N1 strains of avian influenza, and are engaged in the development of several other vaccines for influenza, SARS, and anthrax.⁶⁰⁶

However, in late April 2006, two computer simulations of the possible effects of a pandemic flu revealed deficiencies in US efforts to combat pandemics. According to the journal *Nature*, the US does not have enough antivirals stocked up to stop the spread of an attack.⁶⁰⁷ Additionally, while the National Strategy emphasizes infrastructure resilience at every level, a May 2006 survey by the Deloitte Center for Health Solutions in Washington indicated that 66% of U.S. companies have not prepared for the possibility of a pandemic.⁶⁰⁸

HIV/AIDS

Current HIV/AIDS policy in the United States is derived from President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), a five-year initiative outlining a strategy to combat HIV/AIDS. The plan targets 15 focus countries to implement prevention initiatives and provide care and treatment to those infected with HIV/AIDS. Strategies include coordination with local programs, development of HIV/AIDS health care networks, partnerships with faith-based and community-based non-governmental organizations, coordination with other actors in the struggle against HIV/AIDS and application of the ABC approach for prevention (Abstinence, Be Faithful, and correctly use Condoms). The President's Emergency plan allocates US\$9 billion in funding for targeted countries, and US\$5 billion to existing partnerships and multilateral initiatives, including a further US\$1 billion for the Global Fund. Additionally, the Emergency Plan created the new position of US Global AIDS Coordinator (now held by Ambassador Randall L

⁶⁰¹ Avian and Pandemic Flu in Political Spotlight. Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy, University of Minnesota (Minneapolis) 7 October 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/avianflu/news/oct0705aimeetings.html>

⁶⁰² US Pledges \$334 Million in Global Fight Against Avian Influenza, Office of the Spokesman (Geneva) 19 January 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://geneva.usmission.gov/Press2006/0129BirdFlu.html>

⁶⁰³ Avian Influenza Response: Key Actions To Date. US Agency for International Development (Washington) 21 April 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/home/News/news_items/ai_activities.html

⁶⁰⁴ Pandemic Planning Update, Department of Health and Human Services (Washington) 13 March 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/panflu20060313.pdf>

⁶⁰⁵ National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza, The White House (Washington) 1 November 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland/pandemic-influenza.html#section3>

⁶⁰⁶ Significant Items in House and Senate Appropriation Reports, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/about/overview/budget/PDF/fy07_house.pdf

⁶⁰⁷ US Efforts Might Not Slow Pandemic Flu, Seattle Post-Intelligencer (Washington) 26 April 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/health/1500AP_Preventing_Pandemic.html

⁶⁰⁸ Business Plan for A Pandemic? Washington Post (Washington) 2 May 2006. Date of Access: 2 May 2006. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/05/01/AR2006050101608.html?sub=new>

Tobias) in order to coordinate the actions of the US government in all HIV/AIDS-related initiatives, using centralized funding mechanisms.⁶⁰⁹

To date, PEPFAR has reached 42 million people in community-based HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives, including 1.9 million children saved through the prevention of mother-child transmission. Additionally, anti-retroviral treatment has been provided to 401 000 people, 20% of the 5-year, 2 million person goal. In 2005, the PEPFAR provided US\$2.8 billion to HIV/AIDS relief, a contribution which is expected to increase to US\$3.2 billion in 2006 and US\$4 billion by 2007, in order to meet the targets of 7 million infections prevented, treatment for 2 million infected people and care for 10 million infected and affected people.⁶¹⁰

In 2005, 80% of active organizations through PEPFAR were locally based,⁶¹¹ a component that PEPFAR hopes to extend with a new program called the New Partners Initiative (NPI), a funding mechanism for faith-based and community organizations combating HIV/AIDS. US\$200 million in funds has been allocated to the NPI, which will be distributed by 2008 among candidate non-governmental organizations in target countries as selected by the US Global AIDS Coordinator during "regional bidding conferences" held in 2006. Through the NPI, the US government is targeting local organizations that have not previously worked with the US government in order to attract new partnerships and improve indigenous response capacity.⁶¹²

The US has received major criticism, however, for inadequate support of the Global Fund. To date, the US has provided US\$1.5 million of the US\$2.5 million it has pledged. The Bush administration has also proposed a 45% cut to Global Fund funding for 2007, citing fiscal reasons. The US has also been criticized for refusing the targeted "10 by 10" (10 million in treatment by 2010), and supporting a delay in Round Six of grants and resource provision.⁶¹³ The U.S had previously also supported a delay in Round Five of grant issuing, citing fiscal instability. The suggestion was rejected.⁶¹⁴

The U.S also faced major criticism from the European Union (EU) on World Aids Day 2005 for implementing the abstinence focused ABC program for HIV/AIDS prevention. Two thirds of all PEPFAR grants are targeted solely to pro-abstinence initiatives, and any health clinics affiliated with abortions (offering abortions or counselling) are ineligible.⁶¹⁵

Malaria

President Bush launched the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) in June 2005 with the aim to cut the number of deaths from malaria by 50% in target countries.⁶¹⁶ The PMI pledged US\$1.2 billion in funding over five years for prevention and control through artemisin-based combination therapy (ACT), intermittent preventive treatment (IPT) to combat pre-natal transmission, insecticide-treated mosquito nets (ITNs), and indoor residual spraying with insecticides (IRS).⁶¹⁷ Currently the initiative has been

⁶⁰⁹ The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, United States Department of State (Washington) 23 February 2004. Date of Access: April 29th 2006. http://www.pepfarmpi.com/Content/5year_strategy_long.pdf

⁶¹⁰ Annual Report to Congress on the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator (Washington) February 8 2006. Date of Access: 29th April 2006. <http://www.state.gov/s/gac/rl/60847.htm>

⁶¹¹ Annual Report to Congress on the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator (Washington) February 8 2006. Date of Access: 29th April 2006. <http://www.state.gov/s/gac/rl/60847.htm>

⁶¹² New Partners Initiative, United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (Washington) 27 March 2006. Date of Access 29th April 2006. <http://www.pepfarmpi.com/newpartners.htm>

⁶¹³ Fight Against AIDS, TB and Malaria Could Lose Momentum, Global AIDS Alliance (Washington) 24 April 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.globalaidsalliance.org/pressreleases/press042406.cfm>

⁶¹⁴ US Suggests AIDS Fund Delay Grants, New York Times (New York) 17 November 2004. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.globalpolicy.org/soecon/develop/aids/2004/1117globalfund.htm>

⁶¹⁵ Europeans reject abstinence message in split with US on Aids, Guardian Unlimited (London) 1 December 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006 <http://www.guardian.co.uk/aids/story/0,1654864,00.html>

⁶¹⁶ Fighting Malaria in Africa: Fact Sheet, The White House (Washington) June 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/06/20050630-8.html>

⁶¹⁷ Country Plan: Angola, President's Malaria Initiative (Washington). Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.fightingmalaria.gov/countries/angola_cap-fy06.pdf

implemented in Angola, Uganda, and Tanzania, and the PMI intends to expand its activities to nine additional African countries by 2008.⁶¹⁸

The PMI was welcomed by both the United Nations and the World Health Organization (WHO).^{619 620} As of April 2006, the PMI had impacted the lives of 1.7 million people in three targeted countries. The PMI hopes to accelerate its programmes in the next four month in order to benefit an additional four million people.⁶²¹ However, in April 2006, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) criticized all participants in the global malaria strategy (including the PMI) for failing to effectively implement ACT therapies, due to unorganized procurement and distribution of the drugs. According to MSF, as a result of this failure the majority of countries continue to use outdated drug therapies that have proven ineffective.⁶²²

Other actions in the field of malaria include the Malaria Vaccine Development Program (MVDP), launched by USAID but including partners from other government agencies (including NIAID), the private sector, and academic institutions. MVDP is currently continuing its efforts to develop a global vaccine for malaria.⁶²³ Additionally, the Malaria Action Coalition (MAC), funded by USAID, is a multilateral initiative aiming to support the Roll Back Malaria initiative through technical assistance, treatment, prevention, public education, and improved response capacity and resources.⁶²⁴ MAC has most recently been involved in the revision of malaria treatment policies and implementation in countries such as Senegal, Ghana, and Rwanda, most significantly in the area of intermittent preventive therapy.⁶²⁵

Tuberculosis (TB)

In September 2005, USAID released its Expanded Responses on Tuberculosis, targeting the global goal of 70% case detection and 85% treatment success. The plan focuses on the expansion and amelioration of Directly Observed Treatment, Short-Course (DOTS) strategy for treatment and control of TB, and the adaptation of DOTS in order to widen its capabilities. In addition, the Expanded Response looks to the increasing research and development of tools to combat TB, including drugs, treatments, diagnostics, and intervention plans. 40 countries were selected for USAID's TB initiative, based on TB incidence, HIV/AIDS incidence, and TB epidemic risk.⁶²⁶ To date, efforts have included regional TB control capacity-building programs in target countries, training 382 health care professionals, implementing the DOTS strategy in health facilities in El Salvador and Honduras, and organizing post-war TB programs for Kosovo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.⁶²⁷

In addition to these efforts, USAID continues participation in global partnerships such as the STOP TB Partnership. USAID was a key founder of the STOP TB Partnership, and continues to support the

⁶¹⁸ Fighting Malaria in Africa: Fact Sheet, The White House (Washington) June 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/06/20050630-8.html>

⁶¹⁹ Secretary-General Welcomes United States Commitment of \$1 Billion To Fight Malaria In Africa, United Nations (Geneva) 30 June 2005 <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2005/sgsm9975.doc.htm>

⁶²⁰ WHO welcomes new United States initiative on malaria, World Health Organization (Geneva) 20 June 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/statements/2005/s04/en/index.html>

⁶²¹ Fighting Malaria in Africa: U.S. to Sponsor Low-Cost Mosquito Net Program in Uganda, Benefiting More Than 1 Million, US Agency for International Development (Washington), 25 April 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2006/pr060425.html>

⁶²² Malaria Still Kills Needlessly in Africa, Médecins Sans Frontières (Geneva), 21 April 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org/pr/2006/04-21-2006.cfm>

⁶²³ Malaria Vaccine Development Program, US Agency for International Development (Washington). 15 February 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/id/malaria/techareas/vaccine.html

⁶²⁴ Malaria Action Coalition, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Arlington), 6 September 2004. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.cdc.gov/Malaria/cdcactivities/mac.htm>

⁶²⁵ USAID Technical Assistance Contributes to Policy Revisions, US Agency on International Development (Washington) 15 February 2006. Date of Access: April 29 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/id/malaria/techareas/techassistance.html

⁶²⁶ Expanded Responses to Tuberculosis, US Agency for International Development (Washington) September 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/id/tuberculosis/tbexpanded05.pdf

⁶²⁷ USAID's Key Achievements in Tuberculosis, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 7 September 2005. Date of Access: 29th April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/id/tuberculosis/achievements.html#protest

initiative.⁶²⁸ 92 U.S. partners, including non-governmental organizations, corporations, and academic institutions, also support the STOP TB Partnership.⁶²⁹ Additionally, the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) is a stakeholder in the Global Alliance for TB Drug Development (GATB), a non-profit organization supporting research into improving treatment and prevention of TB.⁶³⁰

Polio

In 2005, the total contribution of the US government to polio eradication amounted to US\$180 million.⁶³¹ The US, through USAID and CDC, was one of the founding partners of the GPEI, to which it is currently the largest donor.⁶³² New outbreaks of polio in late 2005 in 12 African countries resulted in an intensified GPEI immunization campaign in October and November of that year. The US\$100 million initiative, targeting every child under five for immunization (an estimated US\$80 million in total), received 40% of its funding from CDC and USAID.⁶³³ USAID also supported an August 2005 immunization and surveillance campaign in Indonesia, in conjunction with the WHO and the Indonesian Ministry of Health. The campaign targeted 24 million children for vaccination.⁶³⁴

Eradication efforts are also supported by the US private sector.⁶³⁵ In September 2005, the Gates Foundation pledged US\$25 million to the GPEI for immunization programs to control polio outbreaks.⁶³⁶ This grant followed the January 2005 pledge of US\$10 million for the WHO and UNICEF. The funds supported the establishment of a monovalent vaccine targeting specific strains of polio and improving on the previous all-purpose vaccine.⁶³⁷ In February 2006, the WHO announced the introduction of the monovalent vaccine as the new strategy for polio eradication.⁶³⁸

Measles and other preventable infectious diseases

While USAID and the CDC do not currently have any specific projects dedicated to the eradication of "forgotten" preventable diseases, the US currently provides fiscal support to several vaccination initiatives. Between 1999 and 2005, the US contributed US\$283.21 million to the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI), making it the highest donor among G8 nations. However, the US does not currently have plans to extend its contribution to GAVI past 2006.⁶³⁹ The US has also been active in supporting vaccination campaigns in several at-risk countries. In 2003, USAID joined with UNICEF and the Iraqi Ministry of Health to launch a national children's vaccination program that targeted the vaccination of all children five years and younger of preventable diseases, including whooping cough,

⁶²⁸ Expanded Responses to Tuberculosis, US Agency for International Development (Washington) September 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/id/tuberculosis/tbexpanded05.pdf

⁶²⁹ Global Partnership Directory. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.stoptb.org/partners/default.asp?country=US&offset=30>

⁶³⁰ Operating Model and Partners, Global Alliance for TB Drug Development. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.tb Alliance.org/1_2_2_stakeholders.asp

⁶³¹ Fight Against Polio Continues, US Agency for International Development (Washington), 15 February 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/home/News/poliofight.html#

⁶³² Donors Profile for Received and Pledged Contributions 1988-2008. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva). 19 December 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.polioeradication.org/poliodonors.asp>

⁶³³ 80 Million African Children to Get Polio Vaccine, US Agency for International Development (Washington) October 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/id/poliovaccine.html

⁶³⁴ Massive Polio Vaccinations for Indonesia: Global Developments, US Agency for International Development (Washington) September 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/press/frontlines/fl_sep05/global.htm

⁶³⁵ Fight Against Polio Continues, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 15 February 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/global_health/home/News/poliofight.html#

⁶³⁶ Gates Foundation Provides US\$ 25 Million to Protect Horn of Africa from Polio, Global Polio Eradication Initiative (Geneva) 13 September 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www.polioeradication.org/content/fix/donorstories_gatesfoundation.htm

⁶³⁷ World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF Receive Funding for New Polio Vaccine, Gates Foundation (Geneva, New York) 27 January 2005. Date of Access: 29 April 2006.

http://www.gatesfoundation.org/globalhealth/pri_diseases/vaccines/announcements/announce-051027.htm

⁶³⁸ Polio Endemic Countries Hit all-time low of Four, World Health Organization (Geneva) 1 February 2006. Date of Access: 29 April 2006. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2006/pr05/en/index.html>

⁶³⁹ GAVI Alliance/Fund Donor Contributions and Commitments as of April 6th, 2006, Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (Geneva) 6 April 2006. Date of Access: 20 June 2006. http://www.gavi Alliance.org/resources/Donor_Contributions_06_Apr_06_2.xls

tetanus, polio, diphtheria, tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, polio and measles. The program was funded by a US\$7 million grant to UNICEF from USAID.⁶⁴⁰ Similar programs have been launched in Bolivia⁶⁴¹ and Eritrea.⁶⁴²

Bioterrorism

NIAID is currently engaged in resource mobilization research and development regarding treatments for agents that may be used in possible bioterrorist attacks. Accordingly, NIAID has engaged the private sector through the Biodefence and Emerging Infectious Diseases Research Opportunity, providing grants for related research. To this end, NIAID has supported research on response and treatment for Category A pathogens (e.g. anthrax, smallpox, the plague). NIAID has also launched the Cooperative Research for Development of Vaccines, Adjuvants, Therapeutics, Immunotherapeutics, and Diagnostics for Biodefence and SARS, which is currently testing antimicrobials as possible treatments for Category A pathogens. Finally, NIAID has worked for the coordination of national research on Bioterrorism and infectious diseases with the establishment of Regional Centers of Excellence for Biodefence and Emerging Infectious Diseases (RCEs), creating a national network comprised of ten Centers.⁶⁴³

Conclusion

At St. Petersburg, President Bush will likely call attention to the importance of multilateral initiatives, including the International Partnership on Avian and Pandemic Influenza, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. These initiatives all emphasize global cooperation for transparency, coordination and efficiency, a message that the President can be expected to maintain at St. Petersburg. While funding may be announced, no major new initiatives are likely to occur: the US currently maintains sufficient infrastructure to distribute funding in all areas, and partnerships have now been created in all critical issue areas. Additionally, although the remaining G8 members may again criticize the President for the US government's policies on abstinence and pro-life stance, the President can be expected to defend these decisions, and herald the accomplishments of U.S funding to date.

**Compiled By:
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⁶⁴⁰ USAID Sponsors Iraq's National Vaccination Day, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 22 July 2003. Date of Access: 21 June 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2003/pr030723.html>

⁶⁴¹ Grassroots Vaccination Campaign: A Major Success, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 31 March 2006. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/stories/bolivia/cs_bolivia_vaccine.html

⁶⁴² Saving the Lives of Children in Eritrea, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 8 March 2004. Date of Access: 22 June 2006. http://www2.usaid.gov/stories/eritrea/cs_eritrea_mortality.html

⁶⁴³ Significant Items in House and Senate Appropriation Reports, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (Washington D.C.). Date of Access: 29 April 2006. http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/about/overview/budget/PDF/fy07_house.pdf

The G8 and Education: Introduction

In its inaugural year as Chair of the Group of Eight (G8), Russia has chosen to focus global attention on education, alongside international energy security and health.⁶⁴⁴ In bringing education to centre stage, the Russian Presidency has recognized its broad and encompassing nature. Russia is advancing an agenda that seeks to make education adequate for the development of global labour markets and knowledge-based economies. Efforts to harmonize standards for scholars, students and professionals, and facilitate the cultural and professional integration of migrants into receiving countries will be discussed. The Russians have also recognized the importance of ensuring continued and efficient investment in achieving universal primary education.⁶⁴⁵

For the Russians and the G8 in general, the field of education encompasses all levels, from primary instruction through university into lifelong learning.⁶⁴⁶ It involves technical, vocational and professional training, research and innovation, mobility, employability and the labour markets. It also embraces the spread of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the development of relevant skills in order to bridge the 'digital and wider knowledge divide'. It is further seen as a Millennium Development Goal. Increasing access to education in developing countries, encouraging literacy, and allowing for the free flow of information for the purposes of political and social development are essential.⁶⁴⁷

The importance of education was recognized by the Group of Seven (G7) leading industrialized nations as early as 1977, when it proclaimed at the London Summit that it would promote the training of young people in their countries in the interests of economic development.⁶⁴⁸ While the issue of education appeared on the agenda throughout the 1970s, 80s and 90s, G8 attention to the issue became particularly pronounced from the 1999 Cologne Summit onwards.⁶⁴⁹ The 1999 Cologne Charter on Lifelong Learning adopted by G8 nations at their annual summit in Cologne, Germany, placed a premium on the development of human capital in the world's developed economies. It focused on fostering a 'knowledge based' society where lifelong learning would be linked to social and economic goals, and improved quality of life would hinge on access to knowledge in the twenty first century.⁶⁵⁰

The year 2000 marked a watershed for education on the world agenda. In April, the Education for All Initiative (EFA) articulated in the Dakar Framework for Action, was adopted by some 1 100 from 164 countries in Dakar, Senegal.⁶⁵¹ The Dakar Framework includes the following goals: improve early childhood care and education; ensure by 2015 that all children have access to free and compulsory primary education of good quality; ensure equitable access to life skills programs; achieve a 50 percent increase in adult literacy by 2015; eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005; and ensure that recognized and measurable learning outcomes are achieved by all.⁶⁵² The G8 formally endorsed this new education agenda at their 2000 Summit in Okinawa, Japan and it has figured on the G8 agenda ever since. The Okinawa Summit also produced the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT)

⁶⁴⁴ Address by Russian President Vladimir Putin to visitors to the official site of Russia's G8 Presidency in 2006 (Moscow) 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/>

⁶⁴⁵ Education, Official Russian G8 Presidency Website (Moscow) 2006. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/agenda/education/>

⁶⁴⁶ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) April 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

⁶⁴⁷ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) April 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

⁶⁴⁸ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) April 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

⁶⁴⁹ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) April 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

⁶⁵⁰ Cologne Charter: Aims and Ambitions for Lifelong Learning, G8 Summit Cologne (Cologne) 18 June 1999. Date of Access: 8 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/1999koin/charter.htm>

⁶⁵¹ Education for All, UNESCO (Geneva) 2001. Date of Access: 8 July 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/faq.shtml

⁶⁵² Education for All, UNESCO (Geneva) 2001. Date of Access: 8 July 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/ed_for_all/faq.shtml

Force, an initiative mandated to coordinate international efforts to increase global access to information, such as encouraging investment in education with a particular emphasis on developing ICT skills.⁶⁵³ Later in the year, leaders of the world gathered at the United Nations World Summit to adopt the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which placed an emphasis on achieving education for all.⁶⁵⁴

G8 leaders again renewed their commitment to the central goals of the EFA initiative—achieving universal primary education and gender quality—at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit. A commitment to education was also seen in the adoption of the G8 Africa Action Plan, which called for mutually reinforcing actions that would help accelerate growth and make sustainable gains against poverty in Africa.⁶⁵⁵ EFA goals were once again supported at the 2003 Evian Summit in France where G8 leaders agreed to fund the World Bank's Education for All Fast Track Initiative (FTI), an initiative designed to expedite progress on meeting the goal of universal primary education.⁶⁵⁶ At the 2004 Sea Island Summit, the G8's education focus was discussed within the broader context of Middle East and North Africa reform. Education in this context was articulated in several goals for the region: increase literacy, invest in training for employment, and foster political reform.⁶⁵⁷ Finally, at the 2005 Gleneagles Summit, G8 leaders joined in an impressive effort to address development in Africa, which included a renewed commitment to strengthening education there.⁶⁵⁸

In spite of these collective commitments, and the significant individual actions of G8 member states, challenges remain. The EFA goal of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005 has been missed; UNICEF reports that nine million more girls than boys are left out of school every year.⁶⁵⁹ Furthermore, the EFA Global Monitoring Report states that “enrolment ratios are not increasing quickly enough for universal enrolment to be achieved in the short or medium term.”⁶⁶⁰ What's more, there continues to be a shortfall in funding for EFA and the Fast Track Initiative. Despite the substantial commitments made by the G8 at Gleneagles Summit to increase aid to developing countries,⁶⁶¹ recent increases in funding remain short of the US\$5.6 billion per year of additional aid required just to achieve universal primary education.⁶⁶² Moreover, G8 countries themselves face adult illiteracy rates, aging populations in need of better lifelong learning programs, ‘brain drain,’ and variable educational development within their own populations.⁶⁶³ These challenges are significant, but not insurmountable.

In assessing the individual efforts of G8 member states to improve education in all its forms both abroad and in their respective countries, it becomes clear that all have excelled in some respects while falling

⁶⁵³ Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G8 Okinawa Summit 21-23 July 2000 (Okinawa) 22 July 2000. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>

⁶⁵⁴ UN Millennium Development Goals, United Nations (New York). Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/#>

⁶⁵⁵ G8 Africa Action Plan, 2002 Kananaskis Summit 26-27 (Kananaskis) 27 June 2002. Date of Access: 8 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2002kananaskis/afraction-e.pdf>

⁶⁵⁶ Paul Wolfowitz, Education For All Fast Track Initiative Press Briefing, World Bank (Washington) 21 April 2006. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efati/documents/WolfowitzremarksEFAPressbrief.pdf>

⁶⁵⁷ Partnership for Progress and a Common Future with the Region of the Broader Middle East and North Africa (Sea Island) 9 June 2004. Date of Access: 8 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2004seaisland/partnership.html>

⁶⁵⁸ Chair's Summary, Prime Minister Tony Blair (Gleneagles) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 8 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/summary.html>

⁶⁵⁹ Missing the Mark: A School Report on Rich Countries' Contribution to Universal Primary Education by 2015 - Overview, Global Campaign for Education (Johannesburg) April 2005. Date of Access: 9 June 2005. pg. 2. http://www.campaignforeducation.org/schoolreport/part1_overview.pdf

⁶⁶⁰ EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter3.pdf

⁶⁶¹ Gleneagles: What really happened at the G8 summit? Oxfam Briefing Note, Oxfam International (Oxford) 29 July 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.oxfam.org/en/files/bn050729_G8_final.pdf/download

⁶⁶² Education for All – Fast Track Initiative, Fact Sheet, World Bank (Geneva). Date of Access: 8 July 2006. http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efati/documents/factsheet_factsfigures.pdf

⁶⁶³ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto) April 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

short in others.⁶⁶⁴ Their efforts have ranged from investing in development programs for education to maintaining the quality and cultural integrity of their own national systems. In all cases, education has been recognized as an issue that is of concern for both developed and developing countries. In an age of increasing political, economic and social integration, cooperation in education is crucial. While the Russian Presidency has articulated an ambitious goal of achieving a more innovative and effective strategy of international education cooperation and governance, it remains to be seen how G8 countries will meet this challenge at St. Petersburg and beyond.

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⁶⁶⁴ Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 1998-2006. Date of Access: 30 May 2006.
<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/compliance/>

Canada

The Government of Canada's international education and development initiatives are coordinated largely by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), which is headed by the Minister for International Cooperation.⁶⁶⁵ Foreign Affairs Canada and the Council of Ministers of Education (CMEC) are also relevant to the promotion of education in both Canada and the world. The CMEC coordinates and supports collective provincial and territorial input into international discussions on educational policy issues.⁶⁶⁶ These bodies work both independently and in collaboration with each other to coordinate Canada's many commitments to education.

Commitment to Education⁶⁶⁷

Education for development

Mirroring the G8's commitment to the Education for All (EFA) initiative and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) supports education at all levels, with a priority placed on basic education.⁶⁶⁸ Canada's International Policy Statement released in 2005, identifies basic education as a programming priority in Canada's development cooperation program. CIDA's objective is to help countries ensure that every girl and boy has access to free and quality basic education. CIDA also focuses on providing education to children in conflict, post-conflict, and emergency situations, and aims to strengthen basic education as a means to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS.⁶⁶⁹

The Government of Canada's commitment to education has been demonstrated in the amount of funds that it has allocated to developing quality basic education worldwide. In 2002, CIDA stated that it would quadruple its investment in basic education to a total of CDN\$555 million over the period of 2000 to 2005.⁶⁷⁰ Having committed to spending sums of CDN\$232.3 million and CDN\$343.1 million on basic education during the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 fiscal years respectively,⁶⁷¹ the Global Campaign for Education commended Canada in 2005 for having lived up to its investment goal.⁶⁷²

Investing in basic education at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit

At the 2002 G8 summit in Kananaskis, Canada stated that it would double its spending on basic education in Africa to CDN\$100 million per year by 2005.⁶⁷³ CIDA's 2005-2006 Report on Plans and Priorities, states that Canada's commitment to increase its annual investment in basic education in Africa

⁶⁶⁵ Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 2006. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cidaweb/acdicida.nsf/En/Home>.

⁶⁶⁶ CMEC and education-related international activities, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (Toronto) 2006. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.cmec.ca/international/indexe.stm>.

⁶⁶⁷ Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁶⁶⁸ Education, CIDA's Strategy. Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 29 June 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/JUD-121153746-S7N#2>.

⁶⁶⁹ CIDA: Departmental Performance Review 2005, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 31 March 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications3/\\$file/CIDA%20DPR%202004-05%20EN.pdf](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications3/$file/CIDA%20DPR%202004-05%20EN.pdf).

⁶⁷⁰ CIDA's Action Plan on Basic Education, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) April 2002. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/pdf/\\$file/BEActionPlan_no_images%20Eng.pdf](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/pdf/$file/BEActionPlan_no_images%20Eng.pdf).

⁶⁷¹ Canadian International Development Agency – Estimates 2005-2006 – Part III: Report on Plans and Priorities, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 2005. Date of Access: 11 June 2006. [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications2/\\$file/2005-2006RPP-EN-PDF.pdf](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications2/$file/2005-2006RPP-EN-PDF.pdf).

⁶⁷² Missing the Mark: A School Report on Rich Countries' Contribution to Universal Primary Education by 2015 - Overview, Global Campaign for Education (Johannesburg) April 2005. Date of Access: 9 June 2005. http://www.campaignforeducation.org/schoolreport/part1_overview.pdf

⁶⁷³ CIDA: Departmental Performance Review 2005, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 31 March 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications3/\\$file/CIDA%20DPR%202004-05%20EN.pdf](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications3/$file/CIDA%20DPR%202004-05%20EN.pdf).

to CDN\$100 million by 2005 has been met. It further states that CIDA is on-track to maintain this annual level.⁶⁷⁴ In turn, CIDA's investment in basic education in Africa has borne some successful results:

- Since 2002, an additional 6 million children, almost half of them girls, are now in school in the nine countries in which Canada's education programs are active.
- In Tanzania, net enrolment has increased from 65% before CIDA's involvement, to 90.5% in 2004, with enrolment for girls and boys being roughly equal.
- In Mali, a total of 1 290 contractual teachers were recruited and trained, and gross enrolment rates rose from 67% in 2003 to 70.5% in 2004.⁶⁷⁵

Beyond the Government of Canada's commitments to Africa, CIDA has also invested in basic education in Central America and South Asia. CIDA has made major investments in Education for All (EFA) programming in Honduras (CDN\$20 million), and Nicaragua (CDN\$15 million),⁶⁷⁶ countries that have qualified for additional aid under the World Bank's EFA Fast Track Initiative (FTI).⁶⁷⁷

An assessment of Canada's commitment to basic education

A recent report by the Global Campaign for Education ranked Canada 7th among OECD countries and 2nd among G8 member-states in terms of its efforts to support basic education.⁶⁷⁸ At the same time, the 2005 Education for All Global Monitoring Report indicates that Canada, in 2001 and 2002, gave a higher relative priority to financing basic education within its ODA budget than other members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee.⁶⁷⁹ These commitments, however, must be considered in the context of continuing EFA and Fast-Track Initiative funding shortfalls.

Another issue that must be considered is Canada's level of ODA relative to its Gross National Income (GNI). The previous Paul Martin government did not set a timeline for when Canada would achieve the goal of committing 0.7% of its GNI to ODA.⁶⁸⁰ Inasmuch as increasing donor ODA levels to 0.7% of GNI is considered necessary to ensure that the MDG and EFA goals will be achieved by 2015,⁶⁸¹ Canada's refusal to set a timeline for increasing its ODA/GNI level from 0.27% in 2004⁶⁸² to 0.7% is significant. Canada's newly elected government under Stephen Harper has confirmed Canada's commitment to double its aid by 2010-2011,⁶⁸³ and promised to move toward the OECD ODA/GNI average which stood at 0.33% in 2005.⁶⁸⁴ Thus, while Canada's commitment to double its aid by 2010-2011 is significant, it is

⁶⁷⁴ Canadian International Development Agency – Estimates 2005-2006 – Part III: Report on Plans and Priorities, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications2/\\$file/2005-2006RPP-EN-PDF.pdf](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications2/$file/2005-2006RPP-EN-PDF.pdf).

⁶⁷⁵ CIDA: Departmental Performance Review 2005, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 31 March 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications3/\\$file/CIDA%20DPR%202004-05%20EN.pdf](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications3/$file/CIDA%20DPR%202004-05%20EN.pdf).

⁶⁷⁶ Canadian International Development Agency – Estimates 2005-2006 – Part III: Report on Plans and Priorities, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. [http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications2/\\$file/2005-2006RPP-EN-PDF.pdf](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/INET/IMAGES.NSF/vLUIImages/Publications2/$file/2005-2006RPP-EN-PDF.pdf).

⁶⁷⁷ Education for All–Fast Track Initiative - Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Brasilia), 10-12 November 2004. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/documents/Brasilia/status_report_dec6.pdf.

⁶⁷⁸ Missing the Mark: A School Report on Rich Countries' Contribution to Universal Primary Education by 2015 - Overview, Global Campaign for Education (Johannesburg) April 2005. Date of Access: 9 June 2005. http://www.campaignforeducation.org/schoolreport/part1_overview.pdf.

⁶⁷⁹ EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter5.pdf.

⁶⁸⁰ Gleneagles: what really happened at the G8 summit?, Oxfam Briefing Note, Oxfam International, (Oxford, UK) 29 July 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.oxfam.org/en/files/bn050729_G8_final.pdf/download.

⁶⁸¹ Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals, UN Millennium Project - Overview, (New York) 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. <http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/overviewEngLowRes.pdf>.

⁶⁸² Donor Aid Charts – Canada, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 2004. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/42/21/1860310.gif>.

⁶⁸³ The Budget Plan 2006: Focusing on Priorities, Department of Finance Canada (Ottawa) 2006. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. <http://www.fin.gc.ca/budget06/pdf/bp2006e.pdf>.

⁶⁸⁴ Aid flows top USD 100 billion in 2005, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (Paris) 4 April 2006. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.oecd.org/document/40/0,2340,en_2649_34447_36418344_1_1_1_1,00.html.

still a measurable distance from the 0.7% target. The Global Campaign for Education also states that Canada ties a large portion of its education ODA to the import of Canadian goods and services.⁶⁸⁵ Moreover, in 2002, 73% of Canada's education ODA came in the form of technical assistance.⁶⁸⁶ Given the high proportions with which Canada's aid to education is either given in the form of technical assistance or tied to the imports of goods and services from Canada, or both, the net value of Canada's aid to education in terms of what actually constitutes a core resource transfer to the recipient country can be easily questioned.

Other Initiatives

Complying with the DOT Force initiative and improving information access

In addition to its commitment to basic education, Canada has also participated in initiatives to strengthen educational strategies through information and communication technologies (ICTs). It has done this through its contributions to the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force, an initiative endorsed by all G8 leaders at the 2001 Genoa Summit. Among other initiatives, CIDA contributed to the DOT Force process by serving as the international chair of the DOT Force working group focused on the role of ICTs in health care.⁶⁸⁷ Canada also launched Connectivity Africa at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit, a program to improve access to ICTs in Africa.⁶⁸⁸ In partnership with its G8 partner, the United Kingdom, Canada also funds Catalyzing Access to ICTs in Africa, a program that aims to increase ICT access in Africa.⁶⁸⁹ To date, Canada has supported several ICT projects in Ukraine, Jordan, Senegal, Sierra Leone and China.⁶⁹⁰

Furthermore, in line with G8 commitments to encourage through ICT, the sharing of knowledge for the purposes of development, the International Development Research Centre, a Canadian crown corporation supported by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced in December 2005, plans to create an Open Archive on the internet of its project outputs and research documents. The project, the first among Canadian research funding organizations, will make IDRC information available free of charge to encourage international dialogue on important development initiatives, and to help foster greater research capacity in the South.⁶⁹¹

Higher, vocational and technical education

Canada has also committed itself to fostering international partnerships in the areas of higher, vocational, and technical education. For example, the University Partnerships in Cooperation and Development (UPCD) program, supported by CIDA, creates partnerships between Canadian universities and higher education institutions in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America. In April 2005, then International Cooperation Minister Aileen Carroll announced 11 new UPCD international development projects involving nine Canadian universities.⁶⁹²

⁶⁸⁵ Missing the Mark: A School Report on Rich Countries' Contribution to Universal Primary Education by 2015 - Overview, Global Campaign for Education (Johannesburg) April 2005. Date of Access: 9 June 2005. http://www.campaignforeducation.org/schoolreport/part1_overview.pdf.

⁶⁸⁶ Education For All—Fast Track Initiative - Status Report, FTI Secretariat (Brasilia) 10-12 November 2004. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/documents/Brasilia/status_report_dec6.pdf.

⁶⁸⁷ 2001 Genoa Compliance Report, Bridging the Digital Divide – DOT Force, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDOT.pdf>.

⁶⁸⁸ Connectivity Africa (Ottawa) 2006. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.connectivityafrica.ca/>.

⁶⁸⁹ Components, Catalyzing Access to ICTS in Africa (Sandton). Date of Access: 29 June 2006. <http://www.catia.ws/components.php>.

⁶⁹⁰ CIDA's Strategy on Knowledge for Development through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa) 2006. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/ict>.

⁶⁹¹ IDRC Champions Intellectual Platform for Developing Countries, International Development Research Centre (Ottawa) 23 December 2005. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. http://www.idrc.ca/en/ev-92447-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html.

⁶⁹² Canadian universities expand international partnerships, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (Saskatoon) 29 April 2005. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. http://www.aucc.ca/publications/media/2005/04_29_e.html

In partnership with the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology, CIDA is also assisting the Malawi Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training and the Malawi Technical, Entrepreneurial, Vocational Education and Training Authority in a 5-year project between 2003 and 2008 to develop a new technical teacher training program.⁶⁹³ CIDA also provides funding to numerous Canadian organizations including the Consortium international de développement en éducation (CIDE). CIDE is currently helping Morocco develop a skills-based vocational training system.⁶⁹⁴

International presence and national education

In addition to CIDA, Canada's Council of Ministers of Education (CMEC), the official consortium of provincial and territorial education ministers, plays an active role in international discussions on education. It regularly participates in dialogue with OECD countries, APEC, UNESCO, the Commonwealth, and the Organization of American States. Its international work program focuses on the American, European and Asia-Pacific regions.⁶⁹⁵ Recently, in October 2005, representatives from the CMEC, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, and Foreign Affairs Canada attended a meeting of the 2nd Commission on Education at the 33rd UNESCO General Conference. The Canadian delegation reiterated Canada's commitment to the Millennium Development Goals, Education for All, and the Fast Track Initiative; and participated in discussions to introduce amendments to the UNESCO/OECD "Quality Provision in Cross-Border Higher Education" guidelines. Honorable Mildred Dover, Minister of Education for Prince Edward Island and Chief Spokesperson for the Canadian delegation also spoke of the CMEC's commitment to education for all in Canada.⁶⁹⁶

Domestically, the CMEC has identified several national priorities such as Aboriginal Education, Post-secondary Education, and Literacy among children, youth and adults.⁶⁹⁷ Although far from perfect, many aspects of Canada's education system are laudable: among OECD countries, Canada boasts the highest proportion of post-secondary graduates, and a significant percentage of Canadian youth perform above the OECD average in mathematics.⁶⁹⁸

Conclusion

While it remains to be seen how Prime Minister Stephen Harper will perform at his first G8 summit, he is expected to uphold Canada's longstanding commitment to education on the national and international scales. Harper will likely reiterate Canada's support of the education-related MDGs and the EFA agenda, as well as his government's promise to increase Canada's ODA levels. Barring an unforeseen change in Canada's ODA priorities, Mr. Harper is expected to espouse the primacy of education as a development goal, but may not announce any new funding for education initiatives.

**Compiled By:
John Howell**

⁶⁹³ Malawi Enhancing TEVET Outcomes Project, Red River College International Education, 19 April 2006. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.rrc.mb.ca/international/partner.htm>

⁶⁹⁴ Morocco takes a skills-based approach to vocational training, CIDA Update – August 2005, Canadian International Development Agency (Ottawa), 2005. Date of Access: 3 July 2006. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/CIDAWEB/acdicida.nsf/En/STE-42484633-H33?OpenDocument>

⁶⁹⁵ CMEC and education-related international activities, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (Toronto), 2006. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.cmec.ca/international/indexe.stm>

⁶⁹⁶ Canadian Delegation Report of Commission II (Education) of the 33rd Session of the General Conference, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada, 4-6 October 2005. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.cmec.ca/international/unesco/unesco33.report.en.pdf>

⁶⁹⁷ Education Ministers Adopt Three Ambitious Action Plans on Aboriginal Education, Literacy and Postsecondary Capacity, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (Toronto), 8 March 2005. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.cmec.ca/releases/press.en.stm?id=25>

⁶⁹⁸ Education at a Glance, OECD Indicators, Country Profile for Canada, Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (Toronto), 19 September 2005. Date of Access: 4 July 2006. <http://www.cmec.ca/stats/OECD/EAG2005.en.pdf>

France

In France, several governmental departments are responsible for coordinating the country's many domestic and international education initiatives. Official Development Assistance (ODA), a part of which is allocated to education programs in other countries, is coordinated by the Minister Delegate for Cooperation, a director shared between various agencies including the French Development Agency (AFD), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Economy and Finance. The Minister also monitors the progress and efficiency of aid.⁶⁹⁹

The Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research is responsible for the quality and direction of education within France.⁷⁰⁰ The Office of the Prime Minister, of which the Minister of Education is a part, is largely involved in setting national political and financial priorities on areas directly related to education, such as employment, innovation and research.⁷⁰¹

Commitment to Education⁷⁰²

From Okinawa to Gleneagles

After the 2000 Okinawa Summit, where the G8 committed to improving the quality of education by increasing access to information and communication technologies (ICTs), the French Government initiated an NGO-led forum on issues of ICT and the 'digital divide'.⁷⁰³ It again complied with the education-related aspects of the 2001 Genoa Plan of Action: France increased its level of collaboration with international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in order to bolster its political support for the Education for All (EFA) initiative.⁷⁰⁴ In line with the 2002 Kananaskis Summit commitment to support education in Africa, France participated in the High Level Group on EFA, and committed to increasing its ODA by 50%.⁷⁰⁵ In 2004, the French government redesigned its development strategy to focus on the Millennium Development Goals and Education for All. The new strategy is estimated to double the amount of aid targeted to basic education in bilateral initiatives, and further increase the French Government's contribution to multilateral organizations. This includes an increase in funding to UNESCO by over ten times, from €1.5 million in 2003 to €17 million by 2007.⁷⁰⁶

Since Gleneagles: Education for All and the Fast Track Initiative

At the Education for All High Level Meeting in Beijing in November 2005, the French government, represented by Special Envoy Pierre-André Wiltzer of the Ministry of Development Cooperation, participated in the endorsement of an increase in investment for EFA.⁷⁰⁷ Additionally, at the 23rd France-Africa Summit the next month, President Jacques Chirac, along with President Amadou Toumani Toure

⁶⁹⁹ French international Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) July 2005. Date of Access: 14 May 2006. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/IMG/pdf/DGCID2005-Strategie-Ang-BD.pdf>

⁷⁰⁰ Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research (Paris) 2006. Date of Access: <http://www.education.gouv.fr/index.php>

⁷⁰¹ Office of the Prime Minister (Paris) 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/en/>

⁷⁰² Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁷⁰³ Issue Objectives for the Genoa Summit Meeting 2001: DOT Force, G8 Research Group (Toronto) June 2001. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2001genoa/objectives/dotforce.html>

⁷⁰⁴ 2001 Genoa Compliance Report, Universal Primary Education, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompEducation.pdf>

⁷⁰⁵ 2002 Kananaskis Final Compliance Report: Africa - Education, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2003. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003compliance/Compliance%202002%20Africa.pdf>

⁷⁰⁶ The New Focus of France's Aid Programme In the Area of Education, UNESCO (Geneva). Date of Access: 14 May 2006. http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/file_download.php/a78d355eb2accb61db0506c05f132326Mantes_+New_focus.doc

⁷⁰⁷ Final Communiqué, Fifth Meeting of the High-Level Group on Education for All (Beijing) 28-30 November 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006 http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/policy_group/HLG2005_communiquefinal.doc

of Mali, stressed the importance of developmental support for education in improving standards of living in Africa.⁷⁰⁸ At the EFA FTI donors meeting in March 2006, France did not make any new pledges to recover the shortfall in FTI funding,⁷⁰⁹ but did indicate possibly funding a secondee, in order to increase the capacity of the FTI Secretariat.⁷⁰⁹

Current Policies and Initiatives

Development policy on education

The French government has identified seven priority sectors for action which are based on the Millennium Development Goals, one of which is education. France sees the initiatives and funding commitments of the EFA movement and the Fast Track Initiative (FTI) as crucial elements of its international education strategy.⁷¹⁰ Over half of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) distributed by France is allocated to education.⁷¹¹ The majority of that aid is targeted to Francophonie Africa due to the area's extreme poverty and historical ties to France.⁷¹²

The French Foreign Ministry's educational strategy has four main areas of intervention:

1. Targeting both the accessibility of education from the perspective of both societal and technical infrastructure, and emphasizing the importance of equal access, particularly for girls.
2. The quality of education should be targeted in development policy, focusing on a positive and favourable learning environment.
3. Technical assistance and analysis should always be integrated in order to provide optimal education resources and infrastructure.
4. A participatory, cooperative school system should be the goal in all education initiatives.

The French Foreign Ministry also emphasizes the importance of long term educational financing in order to provide developing countries with predictable funds to strategically plan with.⁷¹³

Bilateral and other multilateral initiatives

The French government is currently engaged in several bilateral and multilateral initiatives dedicated to education. In April 2006, AFD announced €5.5 million in financing for technological and vocational education programs in Mauritania.⁷¹⁴ AFD has also joined in partnership with UNICEF for a primary education project in Djibouti, estimated at €3.38 million, of which AFD will contribute €2.70 million. The project's priorities include increasing enrolment, particularly among girls, and improving the quality of education in 15 rural schools in the districts of Tadjourah and Obock.⁷¹⁵ Other programs include €8.32

⁷⁰⁸ Discours de M. Jacques CHIRAC Président de la République Française prononcé lors de l'ouverture du Sommet des Chefs d'Etat d'Afrique et de France à Bamako-MALI, 23ème Sommet des Chefs d'Etat d'Afrique et de France (Bamako) 3 December 2005. Date of Access: 14 May 2006. <http://www.afriquefrance2005.org/>.

⁷⁰⁹ Education for All - Fast Track Initiative Newsletter, World Bank (New York) April 2006.. Date of Access 13 May 2006. <http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/documents/FTInewsletterJanApril2006.pdf>.

⁷¹⁰ French international Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) July 2005. Date of Access: 14 May 2006. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/IMG/pdf/DGCID2005-Strategie-Ang-BD.pdf>.

⁷¹¹ Education for All- Fast Track Initiative: Analysis of Official Development Assistance, World Bank (Washington). Date of Access: 2 May 2006. http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/documents/FTI_Analysis_of_ODA.pdf.

⁷¹² French international Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) July 2005. Date of Access: 14 May 2006. <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/IMG/pdf/DGCID2005-Strategie-Ang-BD.pdf>.

⁷¹³ French support : Sectorial strategie Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 January 2006. Date of Access: 13 May 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/education-university_2274/french-support-sectorial-strategie-education_2647/index.html?artsuite=2.

⁷¹⁴ Projets approuvés par l'AFD le 5 avril 2006, French Development Agency (Paris) 5 April 2006. Date of Access: 14 May 2006. <http://www.afd.fr/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/users/administrateur/public/communiques/2006-04-06-communique-projets.pdf>.

⁷¹⁵ PAEFD, French Development Agency (Paris) 11 January 2006. Date of Access: 13 May 2006. <http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/home/activite/accessecteur/lang/en?secteur=EDUC&srcpage=lstsect&projet=394>.

million in aid for primary education in Niger,⁷¹⁶ a €8.72 million project in partnership with the European Commission to improve the educational quality of public and community schools in Togo,⁷¹⁷ and a €12.87 million project to improve primary education in Senegal in partnership with the Senegalese government and the non-governmental organization, Aide et Action.⁷¹⁸ In total, AFD has 25 initiatives related to education in 23 countries.⁷¹⁹

In addition to these initiatives, the French government also provides technical assistants to aid in the development of infrastructure and capacity to achieve Education for All. The majority of these technical assistants are targeted to Africa.⁷²⁰

Higher education and training programs

In March of 2006, the Minister of Foreign Affairs hosted a conference on the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in higher education internationally. French universities and schools of higher education met with the technology section of the Ministry for National Education, Higher Education and Research to discuss ways in which to provide quality Francophonie ICT.⁷²¹

France is also currently engaged in training programs with Mexico, Italy, Germany and Japan. As a result of a 2002 partnership, 30 Mexican engineering students are supported at French schools of engineering each year.⁷²² In a similar program with Japan, several doctoral students from Japan and France participate in year-long exchanges.⁷²³ French higher education institutions have also participated in integrated programs with their Italian and German counterparts. The result has been the development of Franco-German and Franco-Italian universities. Integrated degree courses are offered on several French, Italian and German campuses.⁷²⁴ Furthermore, along with many of the other European states, France participates in the Bologna Process which aims to establish a common European Higher Education Area by 2010. The Process is meant to yield a system of comprehensive and comparable degrees in order to promote academic mobility in Europe.⁷²⁵

Domestic commitment to education, research and innovation

In addition to its international initiatives, the French Government has taken steps to invest in education and research nationally, for the purposes of fostering greater economic growth in the country. President Chirac declared in 2005, the need for France to concentrate on new projects that would see teaching,

⁷¹⁶ PADEN- 2003-094, French Development Agency (Paris) 20 December 2005. Date of Access 13 May 2006. <http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/home/NosProjets/accessecteur/cache/offonce/lang/en;jsessionid=2DDE5A464BB81B8A3F447F06E9A54B89?secteur=EDUC&srcpage=lstsect&projet=326>.

⁷¹⁷ ASNT, French Development Agency (Paris) 24 June 2005. Date of Access 13 May 2006. <http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/home/activite/accessecteur/lang/en?secteur=EDUC&srcpage=lstsect&projet=299>.

⁷¹⁸ PEBD, French Development Agency (Paris) 23 June 2005. Date of Access 13 May 2006. <http://www.afd.fr/jahia/Jahia/home/activite/accessecteur/lang/en?secteur=EDUC&srcpage=lstsect&projet=268>.

⁷¹⁹ French support : Sectorial strategie Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 January 2006. Date of Access: 13 May 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/education-university_2274/french-support-sectorial-strategie-education_2647/index.html?artsuite=2.

⁷²⁰ French support : Sectorial strategie Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 11 January 2006.

⁷²¹ Meeting on the use of information and communications technologies in higher education internationally, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris) 3 March 2006. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/education-university_2274/events_3315/meeting-on-the-use-of-information-and-communications-technologies-in-higher-education-internationally-tice-paris-march-3-2006_3984.html.

⁷²² Franco - Mexican engineer training programme, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris). Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/education-university_2274/academic-cooperation_2303/franco-mexican-engineer-training-programme_2306/index.html.

⁷²³ Franco - Japanese doctoral college, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Paris). Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/education-university_2274/academic-cooperation_2303/franco-japanese-doctoral-college_2307/index.html.

⁷²⁴ Franco - German University, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 28 June 2006.

⁷²⁵ Bologna Process, UK Bologna Site (London) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/bologna/>.

university and research reforms, and a “renewal of industrial and technological ambitions.”⁷²⁶ Chirac further stated in April 2006, “In a world in which competition is picking up pace, between businesses, between nations, between continents, science and innovation represent the keys to progress, growth and employment.”⁷²⁷ Two key agencies were set up in 2005 to focus on public and private research and innovation: the Agence nationale de la recherche and the Agence de l’innovation industrielle. Furthermore, France is committed to fostering research and innovation partnerships with its EU partners,⁷²⁸ and has also committed to facilitating equal opportunities in all its educational institutions and programs.⁷²⁹

Conclusion

At the St. Petersburg Summit, President Jacques Chirac can be expected to maintain his support for the EFA movement and the FTI, while emphasizing effective donor policy. He may use as an example, the French Foreign Ministry’s decision to restructure its foreign aid programs to meet the targeted Millennium Development Goals. Additionally, Chirac can be expected to support long-term financing for developing nations. However, Chirac may also emphasize another aspect of the Ministry’s policy: the conditionality of aid on results.

There has not been any recent indication that France will announce an increase in funding for the FTI, or any other educational initiatives. However, since the FTI initiative is still experiencing a shortfall of funds, it is possible that President Chirac may join in a new G8 commitment to finance a solution. Finally, it is probable that Chirac will support initiatives that will modernize education systems in both developed and developing countries, and foster the growth of public-private partnerships in the areas of science and technology.

Compiled By:
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⁷²⁶ New Year’s speech: President Chirac sets out his vision for the government. Office of the Prime Minister (Paris) 7 January 2006.

⁷²⁷ The Key to Progress. Office of the Prime Minister (Paris) 25 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/en/information/latest_news_97/the_key_to_progress_55851.html?var_recherche=science+and+technology

⁷²⁸ Research: greater emphasis on long-range planning and cooperation. Office of the Prime Minister (Paris) 16 May 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/en/chantiers/major_projects_94/greater_emphasis_on_long_55984.html

⁷²⁹ Equal opportunities: actively promoting equality and diversity, Office of the Prime Minister (Paris) 18 May 2006. Date of Access: http://www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/en/chantiers/major_projects_94/actively_promoting_equality_and_56013.html?var_recherche=education

Germany

Germany's domestic and international education initiatives, including its commitment to improving the quality of education, ensuring equitable access, and bridging the 'digital divide,' are coordinated by various governmental departments in cooperation with the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). These public departments include the Federal Ministry of Economics & Technology, the Ministry of Education and Research, and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The BMZ is largely involved in establishing cooperative development policy and programs that prescribe education priorities and commitments. It is also involved in the distribution of Germany's bilateral and multilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA).⁷³⁰

Commitment to Education⁷³¹

Since the Okinawa Summit in 2000, Germany has generally complied with its G8 education-related commitments. Germany committed some 19% (or US\$900-950 million) of its ODA to education in 2000,⁷³² and according to the 2005 Education for All Monitoring Report, Germany along with France, Canada and Spain gave a particularly high priority to education in their ODA programs in 2001 and 2002.⁷³³

Development Education and Information, a document published by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in June 2002 remains the guiding document for development policy on education.⁷³⁴ A 2004 position paper released by the same Ministry identifies a number of priority areas for education in developing nations, including the improvement of the quality of teaching, innovative responses to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the incorporation of vocational and further training into education strategies.⁷³⁵

In accordance with these priorities, many of which have been endorsed in several G8 commitments on education, Germany supports the Education for All initiative, contributes to initiatives that bridge the 'digital and knowledge divide,' and devotes resources to education in Africa in accordance with the G8 Africa Action Plan.

Bridging the Digital Divide

At the 2000 Okinawa Summit, G8 leaders committed to improving education by increasing worldwide access to information and communication technologies (ICT).⁷³⁶ At the 2001 Summit in Genoa, Italy, the G8 once again committed to this goal by forming the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force.⁷³⁷ Since

⁷³⁰ Sources of funding for bilateral and multilateral ODA, 2004, Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (Bonn) 31 October 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/figures/InDetail/02-oda-mittelherkunft-en.pdf>

⁷³¹ Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁷³² Uschi Eid, The Road Forward: International Development, Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) 10 October 2002. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/media/speech/speech20021010.html>

⁷³³ Meeting Our International Commitments: EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 5 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter5.pdf

⁷³⁴ Development Education and Information. Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) June 2002. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/service/infothek/fach/konzepte/konzept123.pdf>

⁷³⁵ Basic Education for All as an International Development Goal – A Key Challenge for German Development Policy. Ministry For Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) September 2004. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/en/service/infothek/fach/spezial/spezial107/spezial107_90.pdf

⁷³⁶ G8 Communique Okinawa 2000, G8 Okinawa Summit 21-23 July 2000 (Okinawa) 23 July 2000. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>

⁷³⁷ Keeping Genoa's Commitments: The 2002 G8 Compliance Report. G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDOT.pdf>

then, Germany has supported initiatives that seek to address the lack of information technology resources in the developing world.⁷³⁸

Most recently, on 16 November 2005, German Development Minister Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul announced that Germany would commit US\$5 million to the Development Gateway Foundation for the next three years.⁷³⁹ The Development Gateway Foundation, initiated by the World Bank in 2001, supports activities in 60 countries, and brings together public and private partners on the Internet to share knowledge for development. With the pledge, Minister Wieczorek-Zeul stated, "The digital divide between the north and the south must not grow any further."⁷⁴⁰

After the 2002 Kananaskis Summit: Germany and the G8 Africa Action Plan

In addition to its efforts to promote the use of information technology for education, Germany has implemented several programs in line with the objectives of the G8 Africa Action Plan, an initiative supported by all G8 leaders at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit. According to a report released by the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development in 2005, Germany has donated over US\$30 million to Guinea and Mozambique since 2003, which has led, in the case of Mozambique, to an increase in primary school enrollment from 59.7% to 75.6%. It has also provided extensive technical support to Malawi to improve primary school teacher training. The German government has been particularly concerned with gender equality, and has incorporated gender modules into its education programs. Its initiative in Guinea for example includes these modules in its professional training programs for teachers.⁷⁴¹

For Germany, promoting education in Africa does not mean exclusively encouraging the development of primary education; it also means supporting research and technological development.⁷⁴² Germany has supported a variety of projects, some developed by African non-governmental organizations, to expand the availability and accessibility of information technology. For example, from 2002 to 2004, funding was provided to the non-governmental organization, "Kabissa – Time to get Online", which provided Internet training for African NGOs.⁷⁴³

Vocational training is also a priority for German development cooperation in the region. The German Government has so far contributed €80 million to occupational training in African states.⁷⁴⁴ In addition, Germany contributes to HEQMISA: the Higher Education Quality Management Initiative for Southern Africa. Participating universities from Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Lesotho and Southern Africa host German-funded capacity-building workshops for local populations. At a conference

⁷³⁸ For information on past initiatives, see, Keeping Genoa's Commitments: The 2002 G8 Compliance Report. G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 25 June 2006.

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDOT.pdf>

⁷³⁹ The digital divide must not grown any further, Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 16 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse200511162.html>

⁷⁴⁰ The digital divide must not grown any further, Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 16 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse200511162.html>

⁷⁴¹ Uschi Eid, "Implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan," Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) June 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/20050706_G8Gipfel/q8-afrika-umsetzungsbericht-2005-en-prelim.pdf

⁷⁴² Uschi Eid, "Implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan," Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) June 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/20050706_G8Gipfel/q8-afrika-umsetzungsbericht-2005-en-prelim.pdf

⁷⁴³ Uschi Eid, "Implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan," Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) June 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/20050706_G8Gipfel/q8-afrika-umsetzungsbericht-2005-en-prelim.pdf

⁷⁴⁴ Uschi Eid, "Implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan," Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bonn) June 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. http://www.bmz.de/de/presse/aktuelleMeldungen/20050706_G8Gipfel/q8-afrika-umsetzungsbericht-2005-en-prelim.pdf

of the Association of African Universities (AAU) held in Cape Town South Africa in February 2005, HEQMISA was endorsed as an educational model that should be used by other regions in Africa.⁷⁴⁵

Other recent commitments

In October 2005, Minister Wieczorek-Zeul announced that the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development would increase its funds for education measures to an annual €120 million by 2007.⁷⁴⁶

Two months later in December, the German Government announced a new project in cooperation with the Guatemalan Government to assist in the construction of schools and drinking water facilities in the regions of Huehuetenango and Quetzaltenango y San Marcos.⁷⁴⁷ For this initiative, and other programs in Guatemala, the German government has committed €19 million over the two year period of 2005 to 2007.⁷⁴⁸ Similar programs of education and development have been negotiated with Mozambique to which the German government has committed €68 million from 2005 to 2006.⁷⁴⁹

On 11 January 2006, the German Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development announced that it would allocate US\$10 million towards the United Nations Development Programme's efforts to further expedite the rehabilitation of vocational schools in Iraq.⁷⁵⁰ So far, German development assistance has been used for the training of 200 Iraqi water and electrical engineers in Egypt. An additional 350 people are to be included in this program.⁷⁵¹

Finally, at the March 2006 EFA FTI donors' technical meeting in Moscow, Germany did not make any financial pledges to the Fast Track Initiative, although it took the lead in establishing the FTI Capacity Development Task Team which will focus on improving the ability of countries to implement an accelerated EFA program. It is mandated to involve local donors, stakeholders and government, and will complement the FTI Education Development Fund and Fragile States Task Team.⁷⁵²

Regional educational exchanges

The Federal Ministry of Education and Research maintains a number of exchanges in education and research, many of which are targeted at developed countries including Canada, the United States and countries in Western, Southern and Northern Europe. The Ministry also cooperates with the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).⁷⁵³ These programs with the CIS have been augmented via interdisciplinary initiatives on informational exchange (i.e. in biotechnology, computer science and vocational training).⁷⁵⁴ Furthermore, Germany is party to the Bologna Process,⁷⁵⁵ an initiative aimed at

⁷⁴⁵ Implementation of the G8 Africa Action Plan (Preliminary Version): Report for the G8 Gleneagles Summit, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 6-8 July 2006. Date of Access: 5 July 2006.

⁷⁴⁶ Education means development, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 17 October 2005. Date of Access: 6 July 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse200511127.html>

⁷⁴⁷ Schools for Guatemala, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 17 October 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse200510171.html>

⁷⁴⁸ Schools for Guatemala, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 17 October 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse200510171.html>

⁷⁴⁹ Germany and Mozambique expand their development cooperation, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 20 December 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse_20051220_4.html

⁷⁵⁰ Support for vocational training for Iraqi nationals: BMZ provides US \$10 million (€8.2 million), Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 11 January 2006. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse_20060111.html

⁷⁵¹ Support for vocational training for Iraqi nationals: BMZ provides US \$10 million (€8.2 million), Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Berlin) 11 January 2006. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse_20060111.html

⁷⁵² Education for All - Fast Track Initiative Newsletter, World Bank (New York) April 2006. Date of Access: 13 May 2006. <http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/documents/FTInewsletterJanApril2006.pdf>

⁷⁵³ International Exchanges in vocational education and training. Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin). Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.bmbf.de/en/894.php>

⁷⁵⁴ Bi- and multilateral cooperation in education and research. Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Berlin). Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.bmbf.de/en/707.php>

forming a European Higher Education Area by 2010 that will further increase cooperation in higher education and research policy in Europe.⁷⁵⁶

Conclusion

While Germany has committed significant funds to several education initiatives, it is uncertain whether Chancellor Angela Merkel will announce further funds to the Fast Track Initiative and its Catalytic Fund to provide short-term funding to eligible countries. It is likely however, that at the upcoming summit, Chancellor Angela Merkel will support broad objectives already articulated in the June 2006 G8 Ministers of Education statement, including support for research and innovation and the modernization of national education systems.⁷⁵⁷

Compiled By:
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⁷⁵⁵ The Bologna Process: Next Step Bergen 2005, European Commission. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/educ/bologna/bologna_en.html.

⁷⁵⁶ Bologna Process, UK Bologna Site (London) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/bologna/>.

⁷⁵⁷ G8 Ministerial Meeting on Education, G8 Information Centre (Moscow) 1-2 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/education/education2006.html>

Italy

The Government of Italy possesses a well-developed bureaucracy for coordinating and managing its domestic and international education initiatives. Unilateral initiatives, such as the signing of international agreements designed to enhance the sharing of information and communication technologies (ICTs) with developing countries, are shared among various Italian ministries including the Ministry of Innovation and Technologies (MIT) and the Ministry of Education.⁷⁵⁸ These departments also provide government direction on national education and information technology development in Italy.

Unlike its G8 partners, Italy's development assistance portfolio falls under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, headed by the Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGCS).⁷⁵⁹ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry for Economy and Finance are responsible for about one third of Italy's Official Development Assistance (ODA). The remainder is filled by transfers from the European Union.⁷⁶⁰

Commitment to Education⁷⁶¹

Bridging the digital divide from Genoa and Kananaskis onwards

Italy has demonstrated leadership in spreading information and communications technologies (ICTs) to developing countries in an effort to bridge the 'digital divide' and enhance education worldwide. In accordance with the commitments made by G8 countries at the Genoa and Kananaskis Summits in 2001 and 2002,⁷⁶² Italy co-chaired a working group on national e-government strategies, and in 2002, hosted the Palermo International Conference on E-Government.⁷⁶³ At the conference, the DGCS and the Ministry of Innovation and Technologies (MIT) announced the creation of an e-government program that would fund ICT projects devoted to fostering democratic development and economic efficiency in other countries. The DGCS, in partnership with the MIT, launched its first pilot project in Mozambique in 2004.⁷⁶⁴ E-government projects are currently being funded in Jordan, Bolivia, and Uruguay.⁷⁶⁵

Supporting Education for All

In addition to its involvement in fostering a global information society, the Government of Italy maintains general support for the two major multilateral initiatives designed to implement the Dakar Framework for Action: the World Bank EFA Fast Track Initiative (FTI) and UNESCO's Education for All (EFA) movement.

Since the 2001 Genoa Summit, Italy has repeatedly affirmed its political commitment to the Dakar Framework. In 2002, a few months before the Kananaskis Summit, Italy's Governor at the World Bank, Antonio Fazio, stated that Italy strongly supported Education for All and the target of universal primary

⁷⁵⁸ Ministry for Innovation and Technologies Website (Rome) 2006. Date of Access: 6 July 2006.

http://www.innovazione.gov.it/eng/egovernment/index_eng.shtml; Ministry of Education (Rome). Date of Access 6 July 2006.

<http://www.miur.it/>

⁷⁵⁹ Italy (2004): DAC Peer Review: Main Findings and Recommendations, OECD (Paris) 2004. Date of Access: 22 May 2006.

http://www.oecd.org/document/49/0,2340,en_2649_34603_33741553_1_1_1_1.00.html

⁷⁶⁰ Channels of Official Assistance Allocation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 2004. Date of Access: 27 June 2006.

http://www.esteri.it/eng/4_28_66_71_52_36.asp

⁷⁶¹ Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto).

<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁷⁶² DAC Peer Review: Italy, OECD (Paris) 2004. Date of Access: 22 May 2006, p. 32.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/21/43/33954223.pdf>.

⁷⁶³ DAC Peer Review: Italy, OECD (Paris) 2004. Date of Access: 22 May 2006, p. 32.

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/21/43/33954223.pdf>.

⁷⁶⁴ DAC Peer Review: Italy, 2004. Please also see the Ministry for Innovation and Technologies for more information about the E-government initiative: http://www.innovazione.gov.it/eng/egovernment/index_eng.shtml

⁷⁶⁵ Ministry for Innovation and Technologies Website, 2006. Date of Access: 6 July 2006.

http://www.innovazione.gov.it/eng/egovernment/index_eng.shtml

education.⁷⁶⁶ This political commitment was renewed in the 2004 Annual Report on Italian Development Assistance. The report declared that the Italian Government would continue to pursue the objectives of the 2000 Dakar Framework. Additionally, the report expressed Italy's particular support for the World Bank's Fast Track Initiative.⁷⁶⁷ Between 21 November 2003 and 19 October 2004, the World Bank received US\$2 364 000 from the Italian Government for the FTI Catalytic Fund (CF).⁷⁶⁸ The Catalytic Fund provides short-term financing to eligible Low Income Countries (LICs) for the purposes of scaling up their education plans.⁷⁶⁹

Official Development Assistance to Africa

Since 2002, much of Italy's education ODA has been allocated to Africa, particularly Somalia and Ethiopia. Between 2003 and 2005, the Italian Government gave €25 million to Ethiopia for primary education.⁷⁷⁰ In 2004, Somalia received €200 million for teacher training, and an additional €500 000 for professional training of ex-militants.⁷⁷¹ That same year, the Government of Italy donated €800 000 through UNICEF for EFA efforts in Somalia.⁷⁷² Finally, through multilateral channels, the Government of Italy contributed €1 million in emergency aid for education in the Democratic Republic of Congo.⁷⁷³

In general, the most recent ODA figures for Italy indicate that in 2004, US\$82.9 million was allocated to education, with the majority of it going to primary education.⁷⁷⁴ This amount marked a large increase over its 2003 outlays, which pegged education aid at US\$24.51 million.⁷⁷⁵

Post-Gleneagles contributions to Education for All

The Italian Government did not participate in the Education for All High Level Meeting hosted by UNESCO from 28-30 November 2005 in Beijing, China.⁷⁷⁶ The Government of Italy also did not attend the same meeting in Brasilia in 2004, while most of its G8 partners including the United States, France, and Germany did.⁷⁷⁷ At lower levels, the DGCS participated in a UNESCO-sponsored, June 2005 EFA Working Group meeting that drafted a joint plan for international action to achieve the EFA goals by

⁷⁶⁶ Statement by Hon. Antonio Fazio, Governor of the World Bank for Italy, Development Committee, Department of the Treasury (Rome) 21 April 2002, p. 3. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.dt.tesoro.it/Aree-Docum/Relazioni-/Discorsi/Discorso-d5/FAZIO-SPEECH-SM02-Final.pdf>

⁷⁶⁷ Relazione annuale sull'attuazione della politica di cooperazione allo sviluppo nel 2004, DGCS, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.esteri.it/doc/relazione2004.pdf>

⁷⁶⁸ Education for All Fast Track Initiative, Status Report, Prepared for the Education for All Fast Track Initiative Annual Meeting World Bank FTI Secretariat (Washington) 10-12 November 2004. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/documents/Brasilia/status_report_dec6.pdf

⁷⁶⁹ FTI Catalytic Fund, Education for All Fast Track Initiative, 2006. Date of Access: 6 July 2006. http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/catalytic_fund.asp

⁷⁷⁰ Implementation Report by Africa Personal Representatives to Leaders on G8 Africa Action Plan, University of Toronto G8 Information Centre (Toronto) 1 June 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2003evian/apr030601.html>

⁷⁷¹ Relazione annuale sull'attuazione della politica di cooperazione allo sviluppo nel 2004, DGCS, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.esteri.it/doc/relazione2004.pdf>

⁷⁷² Relazione annuale sull'attuazione della politica di cooperazione allo sviluppo nel 2004, DGCS, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.esteri.it/doc/relazione2004.pdf>

⁷⁷³ Relazione annuale sull'attuazione della politica di cooperazione allo sviluppo nel 2004, DGCS, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. <http://www.esteri.it/doc/relazione2004.pdf>

⁷⁷⁴ Official Commitments (or Disbursements) by Sector (Bilateral and Regional Banks), OECD, Development Assistance Committee, 2004. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/50/16/5037775.htm>

⁷⁷⁵ Official Commitments (or Disbursements) by Sector (Bilateral and Regional Banks), OECD, Development Assistance Committee, 2004. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/50/16/5037775.htm>

⁷⁷⁶ Final List of Participants, The Fifth High Level Group Meeting on Education for All, UNESCO (Beijing), 28-30 November 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/policy_group/HLG5_participants2.doc

⁷⁷⁷ Final List of Participants, The Fourth High Level Group Meeting on Education for All, UNESCO (Brasilia), 8-10 November 2004. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/policy_group/HLG4_final_participants.doc

2015.⁷⁷⁸ In detailing the contributions of the major stakeholders, the Working Group listed Italy as one of the donors providing support for education in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia and India.⁷⁷⁹

Recently, at an EFA FTI technical meeting in Moscow from 13-15 March 2006, Italy made a new pledge of US\$1 million to the EFA Fast Track Initiative to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of universal primary education by 2015. The Netherlands pledged €6 million, and Spain committed a minimum of US\$6 million over the next three years.⁷⁸⁰

Other Initiatives

Knowledge exchanges and training

In February 2006, 53 Afghani students on bursaries from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs were welcomed at the University for Foreigners in Perugia.⁷⁸¹ These students are at the University on study-terms of between two and ten months. The University also represents Italy at the UN/ILO program, “Decent Work through Training and Education.” The program is committed to training young people and aims to foster socio-economic development and peace-building in post-conflict areas.⁷⁸²

In March 2006, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hosted a “Europe-Africa University Cooperation” conference designed to enhance the commitment of the academic world to the development of Africa. The conference focused attention on the impact of university education on the economic and social development of Africa, as well as the positive benefits of university student exchanges.⁷⁸³

The Ministry of Education followed this conference up by signing accords with Qatar, Pakistan, and the United Arab Emirates to increase cooperation in ICT sectors. The accord with Pakistan, for example, includes the provision of Italian educational training to mitigate natural disasters in the country.⁷⁸⁴ The thrust of the initiative seems to herald, what the Italian government is calling, a new orientation for Italian universities towards transmitting social-economic development and scientific capabilities to partner countries in the developing world.⁷⁸⁵ It reflects the Ministry of Education’s focus on human capital and scientific development, and the broader goal of making the European Union a centre of innovation and research. Like its European G8 partners—France, Germany and the United Kingdom—Italy is a member of the Bologna Process, an initiative aimed at harmonizing higher education qualifications at the national and European levels.⁷⁸⁶

Conclusion

The new government of Romano Prodi has begun to hint at changes in the structure of Italy’s Official Development Assistance, changes that could positively affect future education commitments. The recent

⁷⁷⁸ Table B Countries with urgent EFA needs—Planning Framework and Aid Status, EFA Working Group 6 Background Paper on Moving Towards A Joint Action Plan for Achieving EFA by 2015, UNESCO (Paris) July 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/working_group/WGEFA6Actionplanbackground.doc

⁷⁷⁹ Table B Countries with urgent EFA needs—Planning Framework and Aid Status, EFA Working Group 6 Background Paper on Moving Towards A Joint Action Plan for Achieving EFA by 2015, UNESCO (Paris) July 2005. Date of Access: 22 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/working_group/WGEFA6Actionplanbackground.doc

⁷⁸⁰ Education for All - Fast Track Initiative Newsletter, World Bank (New York) April 2006. Date of Access 13 May 2006. <http://www1.worldbank.org/education/efaiti/documents/FTInewsletterJanApril2006.pdf>

⁷⁸¹ 53 studenti afghani in arrivo alla stranieri di Perugia per un soggiorno di studio, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, (Perugia) 8 February 2006. Date of Access: 20 May 2006. http://www.unistrapg.it/italiano/comunicazione/comunicati/08_02_06.php

⁷⁸² La Stranieri partner italiano del Programma delle Nazioni Unite ILO/Universitas, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, (Perugia) 8 May 2006. Date of Access: 20 May 2006. http://www.unistrapg.it/italiano/comunicazione/news/ilo_universitas.php

⁷⁸³ Information Paper—Conference, Africa-Europe University Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 8 March 2006. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_90_01.asp?id=2302&mod=1&min=0

⁷⁸⁴ Importanti Accordi con Emirati Arabi Uniti, Pakistan e Qatar, Ministry of Education (Rome) 2006. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.istruzione.it/ministro/comunicati/2006moratti/0703.shtml>

⁷⁸⁵ Importanti Accordi con Emirati Arabi Uniti, Pakistan e Qatar, Ministry of Education (Rome) 2006. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.istruzione.it/ministro/comunicati/2006moratti/0703.shtml>

⁷⁸⁶ Bologna Process, UK Bologna Site (London) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/bologna/>

inaugural appointment of a Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Cooperation, for instance, was hailed by Italian Foreign Minister Massimo D'Alema as evidence of the new government's focus on international development assistance.⁷⁸⁷ If its official aid levels are to be brought into closer conformity with the international commitments made by the Italian Government, the St. Petersburg Summit may see the announcement of further contributions to the education goals mandated by the Dakar Framework. Italy will also likely reaffirm its commitment to increasing worldwide access to information and communication technologies.

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⁷⁸⁷ Address by Minister D'Alema Before the 3rd Joint Committee (Foreign Affairs and Emigration) of Senate of the Republic and 3rd Committee (Foreign and Community Affairs) of the Chamber of Deputies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome) 14 June 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www.esteri.it/eng/6_38_227_01.asp?id=2453&mod=3&min=1

Japan

The Government of Japan's domestic and international education initiatives are managed by several agencies, including: the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). Through the combined efforts of these agencies, Japan has acted on its commitment to education; it supports the Education for All (EFA) initiative and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),⁷⁸⁸ despite the fact that it only recently reversed a five-year decline in its Official Development Assistance (ODA) budget.⁷⁸⁹ Japan states that its commitment to education is part of its broader agenda of promoting "human resources development and nation-building."⁷⁹⁰ Japan's commitment to education is also evident in its domestic policies: Japan's student performance levels are amongst the highest and its rates of tertiary education attainment are second only to that of Canada.⁷⁹¹

Commitment to Education⁷⁹²

The 2000 Okinawa Summit and the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force

In April 2000, Japan hosted the first G8 Education Ministers' Meeting.⁷⁹³ The Okinawa G8 summit of July that year marked a "great leap forward" in terms of the G8's commitment to education.⁷⁹⁴ Japan called attention to both the widening 'digital divide' and the broader 'knowledge divide'.⁷⁹⁵ The impetus behind the G8's motivation to address these issues came from the realization that developing the human resources capable of responding to the demands of the new information age could not be done without further investments in education.⁷⁹⁶ The Okinawa Summit thus saw the creation of the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force.

The DOT Force was mandated to coordinate international efforts to, among other things, build human capacity for a global information society by focusing on basic education as well as lifelong learning with a particular emphasis on the development of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) skills.⁷⁹⁷ Building on the 1999 Cologne Education Charter and the Dakar Framework for Action, the G8 leaders also made a commitment to investing in basic education to achieve the goal of universal primary education by 2015.⁷⁹⁸ G8 leaders agreed to the statement: "No government seriously committed to achieving education for all will be thwarted in this achievement by lack of resources." The G8 further

⁷⁸⁸ Mid-Term Evaluation on Japan's Contribution to the Achievement of the MDGs in the Area of Education - Summary, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo), March 2005. Date of Access: 25 June 2006.

<http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/2004/mdg.pdf>

⁷⁸⁹ Gleneagles: what really happened at the G8 summit?, Oxfam Briefing Note, Oxfam International (Oxford), 29 July 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.oxfam.org/en/files/bn050729_G8_final.pdf/download.

⁷⁹⁰ Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo), March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁷⁹¹ Education at a Glance 2005: OECD Briefing Note for Japan, OECD, 13 September 2006. Date of Access: 3 July 2006. <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/41/12/35341224.pdf>.

⁷⁹² Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁷⁹³ The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto), 30 May 2006. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf.

⁷⁹⁴ The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto), 30 May 2006. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf.

⁷⁹⁵ The G8 and Global Education Governance, G8 Research Group (Toronto), 30 May 2006. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf.

⁷⁹⁶ Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G8 Okinawa Summit 21-23 July 2000 (Okinawa), 22 July 2000. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>.

⁷⁹⁷ Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, G8 Okinawa Summit 21-23 July 2000 (Okinawa), 22 July 2000. Date of Access: 27 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/gis.htm>.

⁷⁹⁸ G8 Communique Okinawa 2000, G8 Okinawa Summit 21-23 July 2000 (Okinawa), 23 July 2000. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>.

committed to ensuring that additional resources would be made available for basic education and to bridge the 'digital divide'.⁷⁹⁹

2002 Kananaskis Summit and the Basic Education for Growth Initiative

At the G8 Kananaskis Summit in June 2002, Japan launched the Basic Education for Growth Initiative (BEGIN). BEGIN was intended, in part, as a challenge to Japan's fellow G8 members to increase coordination and cooperation in support of achieving Education for All.⁸⁰⁰ As such, at the Kananaskis Summit, the government of Japan committed to providing more than ¥250 billion in assistance for education to Low Income Countries (LICs) over five years beginning in 2002. By the end of 2003, the government of Japan had already provided ¥105.1 billion in assistance toward that end.⁸⁰¹

BEGIN operates under three basic principles that underpin Japan's support for education in general:

1. Developing countries must take ownership of initiatives geared toward achieving EFA. The Government of Japan will assist the sustainable self-help efforts of recipient countries;
2. In the process of fostering that sense of "ownership" and "self-help," the Government of Japan will actively seek to promote community participation, especially at the local level, in the formulation and implementation of education development plans;
3. The Government of Japan will seek to promote the coordination of education initiatives with those of other development sectors such as health. The Government of Japan will also promote collaboration among donor countries, NGOs, and international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).⁸⁰²

An assessment of Japan's development initiatives

Japan's support for basic education, however, has not escaped criticism. Notably, the EFA goal of eliminating gender disparities is not an explicit priority of BEGIN. Instead, it is expected that progress in BEGIN's three priority areas will contribute to the achievement of gender equality.⁸⁰³ In addition, the MOFA's 2004 third-party evaluation of Japan's contributions to the achievement of the education MDGs criticized Japan's narrow, project-based approach to assistance and suggested that a sector-wide approach would prove more effective and sustainable in the long-run.⁸⁰⁴

UNESCO's 2005 EFA Global Monitoring Report also notes that according to ODA levels in 2001 and 2002, Japan gave a below-average priority to basic education in its ODA budget relative to the other members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC).⁸⁰⁵ In these two years, Japan allocated an average of US\$93 million per year to basic education, which ranked it fourth among DAC donors respectively.⁸⁰⁶ Japan's contribution to education represented only 8.7% of its total aid budget for

⁷⁹⁹ G8 Communique Okinawa 2000, G8 Okinawa Summit 21-23 July 2000 (Okinawa) 23 July 2000. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2000okinawa/finalcom.htm>.

⁸⁰⁰ Mid-Term Evaluation on Japan's Contribution to the Achievement of the MDGs in the Area of Education - Summary, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) March 2005. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/2004/mdg.pdf>

⁸⁰¹ Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁸⁰² BEGIN: Basic Education for Growth Initiative, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2002. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/education3.html>

⁸⁰³ Mid-Term Evaluation on Japan's Contribution to the Achievement of the MDGs in the Area of Education - Summary, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) March 2005. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/2004/mdg.pdf>

⁸⁰⁴ Mid-Term Evaluation on Japan's Contribution to the Achievement of the MDGs in the Area of Education - Summary, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) March 2005. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/evaluation/2004/mdg.pdf>

⁸⁰⁵ EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter5.pdf

⁸⁰⁶ EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter5.pdf

those years,⁸⁰⁷ a percentage which was below the DAC mean. It is on the basis of statistics such as these, that in 2005, the Global Campaign for Education, a major consortium of NGOs and teachers' unions, argued that Japan had failed to provide its fair share of the funding needed to achieve universal primary education.⁸⁰⁸ At Gleneagles, however, Japan committed to increasing its ODA by US\$10 billion over the next five years.⁸⁰⁹ Still, it remains to be seen how much of that ODA will be allocated to basic education and education initiatives in general.

Education Initiatives

Collaborations with international organizations

Japan's contributions to education development in other countries vary in geographical and sectoral scope. Japan also promotes collaboration with international organizations such as UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank, and the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). In the Middle East and Africa, Japan has committed US\$1 million to several UNESCO projects including: education programs in Nigeria, the development of literacy and extracurricular education in Afghanistan, and basic education teacher training programs in Yemen.⁸¹⁰ Currently, the Government of Japan, in conjunction with the World Bank and several other donors, is assisting Niger to construct 20 000 classrooms. As of March 2006, the government of Japan has provided ¥2.315 billion to Niger for the construction of 144 schools. Japanese efforts in Niger seek to encourage the involvement of local communities in the planning and implementation of programs to improve their local schools.⁸¹¹

Building educational infrastructure

In support of building educational infrastructure, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) established a "Support Program on Primary Education Development" in Vietnam from July 2001 to March 2004 to strengthen the planning capacities of education administrators. Assistance of this sort has been particularly useful in Vietnam given that the previous lack of detailed action plans on education had been an impediment to Vietnam's goal of achieving 99% net enrolment in primary education.⁸¹² Recently, JICA implemented an Educational Development and Improvement Program in Indonesia to strengthen the capacity of local education administrators. JICA is also involved in teacher training initiatives in Afghanistan through the "Strengthening Teacher Training Project".⁸¹³

Promoting science and mathematics

The Government of Japan has also emphasized the importance of science and mathematics education.⁸¹⁴ For over 15 years, Japan has been involved in textbook development in Honduras, and in partnership with Canada and Sweden, Japan has contributed to teacher training programs for

⁸⁰⁷ EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter5.pdf

⁸⁰⁸ Missing the Mark: A School Report on Rich Countries' Contribution to Universal Primary Education by 2015 - Overview, Global Campaign for Education (Johannesburg) April 2005. Date of Access: 30 June 2005. http://www.campaignforeducation.org/schoolreport/part1_overview.pdf

⁸⁰⁹ Gleneagles: what really happened at the G8 summit?, Oxfam Briefing Note, Oxfam International (Oxford) 29 July 2005. Date of Access: 10 June 2006. http://www.oxfam.org/en/files/bn050729_G8_final.pdf/download

⁸¹⁰ Cooperation with International Organizations, Education for All Japan's Action, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 2003. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://www.infojapan.org/policy/oda/category/education/action/13.html>

⁸¹¹ Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁸¹² Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁸¹³ Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁸¹⁴ BEGIN: Basic Education for Growth Initiative, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) 2002. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/education3.html>

mathematics since 2003.⁸¹⁵ Furthermore, JICA has implemented several Science and Mathematics Education Projects in Kenya, Ghana, and South Africa.

Strengthening cooperation in education

The Japanese government also established the Japan Education Forum (JEF) in March 2004 in order to facilitate in-depth discussions on the relevant experiences of developed and developing countries. JEF is meant to serve as a platform for constructive discussions on new and innovative ways to promote educational development and cooperation. On 8 February 2005, the second Japan Education Forum was held to discuss collaborative ways in which to achieve greater autonomy in educational development. In particular, this second forum focused on promoting girls' education through the perspectives of developing countries.⁸¹⁶

Investing in higher education and sharing Japanese experience and expertise

Finally, Japan's agencies, including JICA, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, contributes to the development of sustainable higher, technical and vocational education and training programs in several countries including Senegal, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Malaysia.⁸¹⁷ Their programs promote education and development goals ranging from South-South cooperation, to the sharing of practical agricultural, industrial and entrepreneurial knowledge.⁸¹⁸ What's more, the Japanese government promotes higher education for students in other countries by contributing funding, \$US140 million to date, to the World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program (WBGSP). By granting scholarships to students of World Bank member-states to undertake graduate studies at renowned universities, the WBGSP aims to create an international community of highly trained professionals working in the areas of economic and social development.⁸¹⁹

Conclusion

As one of the wealthiest and most technologically advanced countries in the world, Japan has demonstrated its commitment to education by providing financial assistance and technical expertise. In doing so, it has emphasized the need for sustainable programming, technological cooperation and comprehensive approaches to education. While Japan manages a number of development projects for education around the world, it has also committed itself to strengthening domestic education – the foundation of its 'knowledge economy.' At St. Petersburg, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi can be expected to lend his support to collaborative initiatives facilitating knowledge exchanges, skill development and global information-sharing not only among G8 and OECD countries, but among developing countries as well. While Japan continues to exhibit strong support for the EFA movement and the Millennium Development Goals, it is uncertain whether Koizumi will use the summit to launch new initiatives in accordance with these broader agendas.

Compiled By:
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⁸¹⁵ Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁸¹⁶ Collaboration toward Greater Autonomy in Educational Development, Japan Education Forum II, 8 February 2005. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://home.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/cice/JEF2report1e.pdf>

⁸¹⁷ Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁸¹⁸ Supporting the Joy of Learning: Japan's Support for Education, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) March 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/category/education/support0603.pdf>

⁸¹⁹ Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program, World Bank. Date of Access: 21 May 2006. <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/WBI/EXTWBISFP/EXTJJWBGSP/0,,contentMDK:20276784~menuPK:552350~pagePK:64168445~piPK:64168309~theSitePK:551644,00.html>

Russia

Several Russian governmental departments are involved in the coordination of domestic and international education initiatives, including: sub-federal institutions, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Information Technologies and Communications, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Russia's education efforts are occasionally conducted in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), a body coordinating 12 former Soviet states (11 permanent members and one associate member) in several areas of domestic and external policy.⁸²⁰

Commitment to Education⁸²¹

Despite Russia's current enthusiasm about bringing education issues to the fore at the 2006 St. Petersburg Summit, its past performance on education-related G8 commitments has seldom been satisfactory.

Although Russia, in 2001, established a Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force website that highlighted 'digital divide' activities in Russia,⁸²² after the Genoa Summit, it relied exclusively on the support of Microsoft Russia in order to fulfill its commitments to the DOT Force initiative.⁸²³ In the assessment period between the 2002 Kananaskis Summit and the 2003 Evian Summit, the Russian Federation did little to fulfill its Kananaskis commitment to work towards universal primary education.⁸²⁴ However, during its 2006 G8 presidency, the Russian government has committed to hosting a number of conferences and meetings on education, including: the International Conference on Knowledge and Competencies for Innovation Society (18-19 April 2006), the G8 Education Ministerial Meeting (1-2 June 2006), and the Conference on Globalization of Educational Space - Mobility Programs and International Educational Portals (1-2 October 2006).

Representatives from Brazil, China, India, Kazakhstan, Mexico, South Africa, the OECD, UNESCO and the World Bank attended the G8 Education Ministerial in Moscow, which concluded with an 18-point declaration of principles. Ministers committed to "help shape innovative societies through the provision of solid education and training foundations;" underlined the importance of ICTs for advancing quality education; emphasized the importance of international educational mobility; and reaffirmed their countries' commitment to support the Education for All (EFA) initiative and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).⁸²⁵

Africa, Education for All and the Fast Track Initiative

There is little recent evidence that Russia is a net donor of official development assistance (ODA) in the field of education. In a recent report, A.M. Makarenko, the Director of the Department for Africa in the Russian Foreign Ministry, listed several programs that the Russian government had established or would soon be establishing in Africa.⁸²⁶ Since 1996, Russia has provided US\$1 million plus the assistance of its

⁸²⁰ CIS Executive Committee, Commonwealth of Independent States (Minsk). Date of Access: 9 June 2006. <http://www.cis.minsk.by/main.aspx?uid=3360>. Turkmenistan discontinued its permanent membership in the CIS in August 2005 and continues its involvement as an associate member.

⁸²¹ Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁸²² Issue Objectives for the Genoa Summit Meeting 2001: DOT Force, G8 Research Group (Toronto) June 2001. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2001genoa/objectives/dotforce.html>

⁸²³ Keeping Genoa's Commitments: The 2002 G8 Compliance Report. G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompDOT.pdf>

⁸²⁴ Kananaskis Final Compliance Report, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2003. Date of Access: 25 June 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003compliance/Compliance%202002%20Africa.pdf>

⁸²⁵ G8 Ministerial Meeting on Education, Moscow, 1-2 June 2006, "G8 Presidency of the Russian Federation (St. Petersburg) 2 June 2006. Date of Access: 3 June 2006. <http://en.g8russia.ru/news/20060602/1151807.html>

⁸²⁶ A. Makarenko, The Problems of Africa, Civil G8 (Moscow). Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://en.civilg8.ru/q8rus/publications/1/1591.php>

Ministry of Emergencies to help in the establishment of a technical centre in Kavumu, Rwanda, which trained more than 1 200 drivers and mechanics.⁸²⁷ Russia provides more than 700 scholarships year for personnel training.⁸²⁸ Furthermore, Russia is proposing to develop joint educational institutions in Africa, with a Russo-Egyptian University planned in Cairo.⁸²⁹

Russia's Minister of Education and Science, Andrei Fursenko announced at a major donors' conference in Moscow this past March that Russia will be contributing US\$7.2 million in support of the Education for All - Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI).⁸³⁰ Fursenko further stated, "Russia welcomes the opportunity to play a leadership role in the Education for All - Fast Track Initiative, especially since we feel strongly that the decisions made at the next G8 summit could greatly impact the quality of education for future generations."⁸³¹ While this is a substantial boost, the program's funding gap is forecast at US\$510 million. It is estimated that this gap will reach US\$2.4 billion by 2008.⁸³²

Bridging the Digital Divide

Through participation in a number of international initiatives, the Russian Federation seeks to expand global access to the Internet and to develop bilateral and multilateral ICT programs. Most recently, Russia and Japan agreed to strengthen their cooperation in information technology trade and ICT development.⁸³³ Russia has also participated in United Nations programs on developing a global information society including the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force and more recently, the Global Alliance for ICT and Development.⁸³⁴ Recently, Russia released an Action Plan for the expansion of information technology use both in Russia and abroad.⁸³⁵ Although the Plan outlines the positive benefits of ICT for developing nations, it provides no specific examples of Russian initiatives to further the spread of this resource throughout the developing world.⁸³⁶

Russia is also a recipient of a multi-million dollar World Bank loan for an e-Learning Support Project which was designed by Russian and international experts with the involvement of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Information Technologies.⁸³⁷

Education in Russia and the former Soviet states

Although Russia's education system appears robust, with 99.6% literacy and 26% of its population holding a university degree,⁸³⁸ President Putin has stated that the Russian education system, as well as

⁸²⁷ A. Makarenko, The Problems of Africa, Civil G8 (Moscow). Date of Access: 26 June 2006.
<http://en.civilg8.ru/g8rus/publications1/1591.php>.

⁸²⁸ A. Makarenko, The Problems of Africa, Civil G8 (Moscow). Date of Access: 26 June 2006.
<http://en.civilg8.ru/g8rus/publications1/1591.php>.

⁸²⁹ A. Makarenko, The Problems of Africa, Civil G8 (Moscow). Date of Access: 26 June 2006.
<http://en.civilg8.ru/g8rus/publications1/1591.php>.

⁸³⁰ Major Donors for Education Gather in Moscow to Assess Progress Toward millennium Development Goal of Universal Primary Education by 2015, States News Service, 14 March 2006.

⁸³¹ Major Donors for Education Gather in Moscow to Assess Progress Toward millennium Development Goal of Universal Primary Education by 2015, States News Service, 14 March 2006.

⁸³² Major Donors for Education Gather in Moscow to Assess Progress Toward millennium Development Goal of Universal Primary Education by 2015, States News Service, 14 March 2006.

⁸³³ 3 April at the Ministry of Informational Links of the Russian Federation a meeting was held with the head of the Japanese Ministry on bilateral questions and relations under the guidance of the director of the International Cooperation department F.M. Timofeyev, Ministry of Informational Technology and Relations of the Russian Federation (Moscow) 3 April 2006. Date of Access: June 2006. <http://www.minsvyaz.ru/site.shtml?id=3789>. [In Russian]

⁸³⁴ United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force (Geneva), 2006. Date of Access: 5 July 2006.
<http://www.unicttaskforce.org/>.

⁸³⁵ Action Plan, Ministry of Information Technology and Relations (Moscow) 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006.
<http://www.minsvyaz.ru/site.shtml?id=2078> [In Russian]

⁸³⁶ Action Plan, Ministry of Information Technology and Relations (Moscow) 2005. Date of Access: 26 June 2006.
<http://www.minsvyaz.ru/site.shtml?id=2078> [In Russian]

⁸³⁷ News Release, Loan Agreement Signing: e-Learning Support Project, The World Bank Group (Moscow), 7 December 2004.
http://194.84.38.65/mdb/pressreleases/3/pr_e-learning_eng.pdf.

those of the former Soviet Republics, has deteriorated.⁸³⁹ According to Moscow's mayor Yury Luzhkov, the country's system of vocational schools has collapsed and requires rebuilding.⁸⁴⁰ President Putin is calling for the Ministry of Education and Science to develop programs at top universities across the country for the purposes of establishing several model education centres.⁸⁴¹ The government will spend US\$180 million on this initiative in 2006 and triple that amount in 2007.⁸⁴² President Putin declared that he would also like to see more international students attending Russian universities, and more Russian-supported campuses established in the former Soviet republics.

Indeed, most Russian initiatives in the field of education have been restricted to the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). In a 2002 policy document, the Russian Federation identified the importance of information technologies in the general development of the CIS economies and the necessity of mutual recognition of qualifications throughout the former Soviet Union.⁸⁴³ This trend was confirmed in a recent conference on humanitarian cooperation within the CIS, where Russia and several former Soviet states agreed to increase their integration in a number of fields, including education and training.⁸⁴⁴

Conclusion

Russia has announced its intention to pursue a number of ambitious programs under the auspices of the Education for All (EFA) initiative. To date, the Russian Federation has not been involved in large scale projects concerning education in the developing world. Russian participation has increased greatly since its near complete absence from international projects in the late 1990s. Apart from sporadic initiatives in certain African nations and plans for cooperative projects with universities in Egypt, most Russian activity has been concentrated in the Commonwealth of Independent States and neighbouring countries. Furthermore, the Russian government is attempting to increase internal usage of ICT in education and other civilian fields, given the relatively low penetration of the Internet in daily life in Russia compared to the rest of the G8. It remains to be seen, however, whether Russia can translate the lessons of its own experience into effective and comprehensive educational and technological programs in the developing world.

Compiled By:
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⁸³⁸ Comparative Indicators of Education in the United States and other G-8 Countries: 2002. National Center for Education Statistics (Washington), 16 March 2003. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003026.pdf>.

⁸³⁹ Putin Pushes Education, a G8 Priority, The Moscow Times (Moscow) 27 March 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.themoscowtimes.com/stories/2006/03/27/015.html>

⁸⁴⁰ Putin Pushes Education, a G8 Priority, The Moscow Times (Moscow) 27 March 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.themoscowtimes.com/stories/2006/03/27/015.html>

⁸⁴¹ Putin Pushes Education, a G8 Priority, The Moscow Times (Moscow) 27 March 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.themoscowtimes.com/stories/2006/03/27/015.html>

⁸⁴² Putin Pushes Education, a G8 Priority, The Moscow Times (Moscow) 27 March 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.themoscowtimes.com/stories/2006/03/27/015.html>

⁸⁴³ CONCEPTS of government policy of the Russian Federation for the preparation of national teams of foreign nations in Russian educational institutions, Federal Agency for Education (Moscow) 18 October 2002. <http://www.ed.gov.ru/int-coop/tema/> [In Russian]

⁸⁴⁴ Cooperation in the field of culture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Moscow) 16 June 2006. Date of Access: 26 June 2006. <http://www.ln.mid.ru/Ns-dksu.nsf/arh/432569F10031DCE6C3256FF6003DC8FC?OpenDocument>

United Kingdom

The United Kingdom's initiatives in the field of international education are administered through the Department for International Development (DFID). DFID coordinates several education programs and partnerships, with local civil society organizations in developing countries as well as with international organizations such as UNICEF.⁸⁴⁵

National education programs are mainly coordinated by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES), which oversees programs and institutions for primary, higher and lifelong learning.⁸⁴⁶ The United Kingdom also collaborates with other EU countries on education initiatives, including the Lisbon Strategy, which seeks to make Europe the most competitive, knowledge-based economy in the world by 2010, and the Bologna Process for the creation of a European Higher Education Area.⁸⁴⁷

Commitment to Education⁸⁴⁸

According to G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Reports since 2000, the UK has complied with its G8 education-related commitments. As per the commitments made on improving access to information and communication technologies (ICT) at the 2000 Okinawa Summit, the United Kingdom initiated several activities including a meeting with the private sector to discuss the Digital Opportunities Task (DOT) Force and the UK's role in helping to close the 'digital divide'.⁸⁴⁹ After the 2001 Genoa Summit, the UK allocated funds for education to South Africa, Rwanda and Malawi, and supported the implementation of monitoring systems for the Education for All (EFA) initiative.⁸⁵⁰ ODA figures between 2001 and 2002 reveal that DFID gave a high priority to financing primary education.⁸⁵¹ However, the percentage of total aid devoted to education was 5.4%, a figure that put it behind France, Germany and Canada.⁸⁵² In 2002 to 2003, the UK complied with commitments made at the 2002 Kananaskis Summit on the issue of universal primary education by allocating significant funding to the EFA initiative.⁸⁵³

After the 2005 Gleneagles Summit: Education for All and the Fast Track Initiative

Following the 2005 Gleneagles Summit in Scotland, the UK greatly increased its focus on education and the EFA and Fast Track Initiative (FTI). At the United Nations Millennium Review Summit in September 2005, the UK's Secretary of International Development Hilary Benn announced £40 million in funding for the FTI. This was in addition to a previous commitment of £1.4 billion over four years to the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA).⁸⁵⁴ Subsequently, at the Education for All High Level Meeting in Beijing in November 2005, the UK government, represented by Gareth Thomas, Minister of

⁸⁴⁵ Education Factsheet, Department for International Development (London) September 2005. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/mdg-factsheets/educationfactsheet.pdf>

⁸⁴⁶ Department for education and skills, Direct.gov UK (London) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/>

⁸⁴⁷ Higher education conference, 9-11 October 2005: Speech by Bill Rammell, UK Minister for Lifelong Learning, Further & Higher Education, UK Presidency of the EU 2005 (Manchester) 10 October 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003compliance/Compliance%202002%20Africa.pdf>; Bologna Secretariat Website, Bologna Process (London) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/bologna/>

⁸⁴⁸ Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁸⁴⁹ Issue Objectives for the Genoa Summit Meeting 2001: DOT Force, G8 Research Group (Toronto) June 2001. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2001genoa/objectives/dotforce.html>

⁸⁵⁰ 2001 Genoa Compliance Report, Universal Primary Education, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 6 June 2002. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2002compliance/2002reportCompEducation.pdf>

⁸⁵¹ Meeting Our International Commitments: EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 5 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter5.pdf

⁸⁵² Meeting Our International Commitments: EFA Global Monitoring Report 2005, United Nations Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (Paris) 2005. Date of Access: 5 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr_download/chapter5.pdf

⁸⁵³ 2002 Kananaskis Final Compliance Report: Africa - Education, G8 Research Group (Toronto) 31 May 2003. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003compliance/Compliance%202002%20Africa.pdf>

⁸⁵⁴ Extra £40 million for Education in Developing Countries, Department for International Development, (London) 12 September 2005. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/fti-education.asp>

State at DFID, endorsed an increase in investment for EFA.⁸⁵⁵ During a December 2005 conference on maternal, newborn and child health, Minister Thomas re-emphasized this endorsement, calling for a doubling of aid for basic education in order to close the FTI financing gap.⁸⁵⁶ Finally, in April 2006, Secretary of International Development Benn announced £8.5 billion to achieve EFA,⁸⁵⁷ including an additional £100 million in funding for the FTI.⁸⁵⁸

Furthermore, in early 2006, in accordance with the G8 commitment to tackle global poverty, Secretary of State for International Development, Hilary Benn announced the creation of a new White Paper.⁸⁵⁹ To be released in late summer 2006, the White Paper will mark the beginning of a new national strategy for the effective coordination of the UK's international development aid. According to Mr. Benn, the White Paper will initialize new policies on the delivery of development programs. On education, Mr. Benn points to the benefits of abolishing fees for basic services such as primary school; emphasized the need to expand secondary education, adult literacy and higher education; and stressed the importance of achieving gender equality in education. Once the paper is completed, DFID hopes to accelerate its development initiatives.⁸⁶⁰

Current Development Initiatives for Education

Multilateral and bilateral agreements

The UK is currently engaged in several bilateral and multilateral initiatives dedicated to achieving Education for All. Most recently, a budget support program was approved for the Government of Mozambique. The program awards initial funding of £215 million over five years, with the promise of increasing commitment as positive results are reported through a Performance Assessment Framework (PAF). The Government of Mozambique retains discretion over program spending, and has set a four-year target of raising primary school enrolment from 83% to 93%. This initiative should also serve to heighten the positive effects of advances made in gender-equitable educational access.⁸⁶¹

In March 2006, DFID announced a three-year, £120 million budget support agreement with the government of Ghana. Ghana's government has committed to removing school fees in order to increase accessibility to education.⁸⁶² Similar bilateral plans exist for Kenya, with £55 million in funding to support the five-year Kenya Education Sector Support Program;⁸⁶³ and Sierra Leone, where DFID contributed £26 million over the next three years in budget support for initiatives including education.⁸⁶⁴ DFID funds bilateral programs in the field of education for over 30 countries in the Global South, totaling

⁸⁵⁵ Final Communiqué, Fifth Meeting of the High-Level Group on Education for All (Beijing), 30 November 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/policy_group/HLG2005_communiquefinal.doc

⁸⁵⁶ Double aid for education and end school fees in developing countries, urges UK, Department for International Development, (London) 13 December 2005. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/double-aid-education.asp>

⁸⁵⁷ Government announces \$15 billion to deliver education for all, Department for International Development (London) 10 April 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/15billion-education.asp>

⁸⁵⁸ Hilary Benn announces extra £100 million to get more children into primary school in developing countries, Department for International Development (London) 21 April 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/100m-fti-education.asp>

⁸⁵⁹ New White Paper on International Development, Department for International Development (London) 2006. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/wp2006/default.asp>

⁸⁶⁰ Address by Secretary of State for International Development Hilary Benn at UNISON, Department for International Development, (London) 16 February 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/Speeches/wp2006-speeches/services160206.asp>

⁸⁶¹ The UK announces £215 million to support Mozambique to reduce poverty and deliver services to the poorest, Department for International Development (London) 3 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/215million-mozambique.asp>

⁸⁶² UK announces £120 million of support for Ghana over next three years, Department for International Development (London) 3 March 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/ghana-support.asp>

⁸⁶³ UK announces major support for Education in Kenya, Department for International Development (London) 17 January 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/education-kenya.asp>

⁸⁶⁴ Continued progress in Sierra Leone brings further UK support, Department for International Development (London) 29 November 2005. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/additional-support-sierra-leone.asp>

approximately £1.4 billion.⁸⁶⁵ In the same month, Mr. Gareth Thomas announced £75 million in financing to a DFID and UNICEF partnership for the purposes of improving existing UNICEF programs in marginalized provinces in India.⁸⁶⁶

In April 2006, DFID emphasized the importance of financing long-term education plans. DFID is initiating capacity funding to developing countries in order to develop such plans. Long-term plans provide donor countries with clear targets and strategies; securing long-term financing enables developing countries to create such strategies confidently.⁸⁶⁷

Global School Partnerships Program

DFID also administers education programs in partnership with non-governmental organizations. The Global School Partnerships (GSP) Program creates links between British schools and schools in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. GSP provides funding, expertise, and training to schools in the developing world, and promotes global citizenship in participating institutions. While GSP is funded by DFID, it is administered by British civil society organizations including the British Council, Voluntary Service Overseas, the UK OneWorld Association, and Cambridge Education.⁸⁶⁸

GSP was initiated in 2003 with a grant of £3.2 million. In April 2006, Mr. Benn and DFID announced that the program's funding would be doubled in the next three years to a total of £7.5 million. This will allow the program to increase the volume of grants awarded from 266 in the first three years of operation to 1100 during the next three. In a press release dated April 11, 2006, Mr. Benn also noted the importance of GSP in perception-formation in both the UK and the Global South, as well as in promoting EFA.⁸⁶⁹

Information and Communication Technologies

A 2002 DFID strategy paper emphasized the importance of ICTs for poverty reduction and sustainable development. The paper stated that the digital divide was not a problem in and of itself, thus providing ICTs to developing countries alone could not act as a "magic bullet" for development. Recommendations emphasized the careful provision and application of ICTs, sensitive to the receiving environment and the country's needs. The report also recommended heavy consultation with the receiving country when implementing ICTs.⁸⁷⁰

According to these principles, the United Kingdom funds Catalyzing Access to ICTs in Africa (CATIA), a program designed to significantly increase affordable ICT access in Africa.⁸⁷¹ CATIA's work includes the provision of low-cost computers and satellite Internet access, as well as open source software.⁸⁷² CATIA is the UK's largest ICT-centered program for developing countries, with total spending of US\$14.3 million between 2003 and 2006. It is funded in collaboration with its G8 partner, Canada. In addition to CATIA, the UK is currently engaged in a variety of multi-donor programs in partnership with civil society

⁸⁶⁵ Education Factsheet, Department for International Development, (London), September 2005. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/mdg-factsheets/educationfactsheet.pdf>

⁸⁶⁶ Joint DFID Press Release with UNICEF (New York), Department for International Development (London) 14 March 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/india-children.asp>

⁸⁶⁷ Gleneagles Implementation Plan for Africa - April 2006 update, Department for International Development (London) April 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/g8/milestones.asp>

⁸⁶⁸ About DFID Global School Partnerships, British Council (Edinburgh). Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.britishcouncil.org/globalschools-about.htm>

⁸⁶⁹ £7.5 million boost for school links, Department for International Development (London) 11 April 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/boost-school-links.asp>

⁸⁷⁰ The significance of information and communication technologies for reducing poverty, Department for International Development (London) January 2002. Date of Access: 30 June 2006. http://www1.oecd.org/dac/ictcd/docs/matrixdocs/GBR_paper1.pdf

⁸⁷¹ Welcome, Catalyzing Access to ICTs in Africa (Sandton). Date of Access: 29 June 2006 <http://www.catia.ws/>

⁸⁷² Components, Catalyzing Access to ICTs in Africa (Sandton). Date of Access: 29 June 2006. <http://www.catia.ws/components.php>

organizations such as OneWorld International, the International Institute of Communications for Development, and the Panos Institute.⁸⁷³

Domestic Education and Partnerships with the European Union

As a member of the European Union, the United Kingdom has committed itself to European-wide goals to modernize its education system in an effort to transform Europe into a leading, knowledge and innovation-based society. In doing so, the UK has pledged its political support to the Lisbon Strategy. Under the Lisbon Strategy, Ministers of Education from the European Union agree to achieve, for the benefit of all EU citizens, an improvement in the quality and effectiveness of EU education and training systems by 2010. The Lisbon Strategy also aims to improve accessibility to European education and training by the world.⁸⁷⁴ In line with the Strategy, the UK has taken steps domestically, such as introducing new funding arrangements—variable tuition fees—in order to ensure the quality of higher education institutions in the country. These changes will come into effect in September 2006.⁸⁷⁵

The UK has also assumed the leadership of the Secretariat to the Bologna Follow Up Group and its Board for the period of 2005 to 2007.⁸⁷⁶ The Bologna Process wishes to establish a European Higher Education Area by harmonizing academic degree standards. Recently, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine joined the process. The Bologna Process recognizes the importance of cultural diversity in the cultivation of a broader, European-wide, knowledge-based society.⁸⁷⁷

Conclusion

Through parallel continental and international efforts, the United Kingdom has demonstrated its commitment to improving the quality of education in Europe and abroad. While Prime Minister Tony Blair can be expected to communicate the UK's support for fostering a competitive, knowledge-based Europe, he is likely to support initiatives that will increase investment in education in both European and non-European states. In its evaluation of Gleneagles implementation plans, the UK Government has also emphasized the need to scale up investment in international education programs such as the Fast Track Initiative.⁸⁷⁸ At St. Petersburg, Blair can be expected to call attention to this goal, and to encourage donor countries to follow the UK's example in doubling their respective contributions to the FTI. Blair is also likely to reiterate the UK's emphasis on long-term education funding, and the conditionality of aid on targets, strategies and results.

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⁸⁷³ Donor ICT Strategies: United Kingdom, OECD Development Assistance Committee (Paris) December 2003. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. http://www1.oecd.org/dac/ictcd/htm/matrix_gbr.htm.

⁸⁷⁴ Education and training 2010, Diverse Systems, Shared Goals, European Commission Education and Training, 3 May 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/2010/et_2010_en.html

⁸⁷⁵ Higher education conference, 9-11 October 2005: Speech by Bill Rammell, UK Minister for Lifelong Learning, Further & Higher Education, UK Presidency of the EU 2005 (Manchester) 10 October 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006.

<http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2003compliance/Compliance%202002%20Africa.pdf>; Bologna Secretariat Website, Bologna Process (London) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/bologna/>

⁸⁷⁶ Bologna Secretariat Website, Bologna Process (London) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/bologna/>

⁸⁷⁷ The European Higher Education Area – Achieving the Goals, Communiqué of the Conference of European Ministers Responsible for Higher Education (Bergen) 19-20 May 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. http://www.bologna-bergen2005.no/Docs/00-Main_doc/050520_Bergen_Communique.pdf

⁸⁷⁸ Gleneagles Implementation Plan for Africa - April 2006 update, Department for International Development (London) April 2006. Date of Access: 11 May 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/q8/milestones.asp>

United States

The United States' numerous national and international education initiatives are coordinated by several governmental departments. International development programs for education are managed by the US Agency for International Development's (USAID) Office of Education which is part of the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT/ED). Funds are distributed by the Bureau to a variety of different organizations, each of which carry out their own respective programs, including the African Education Initiative (AEI), Centers of Excellence for Teacher Training, and the USAID Educational Partnership Program.⁸⁷⁹ Funding for international education initiatives is also distributed through the President's Millennium Challenge Account, a funding mechanism formed in 2002 for countries that have proven to "rule justly, invest in their people, and encourage economic freedom."⁸⁸⁰

Domestically, the Department of Education is involved in the management of many of the country's national education programs. These education priorities include improving quality public primary and secondary education, and ensuring greater investment in research and innovation.⁸⁸¹ The Department's International Affairs Office advises the Department on international issues and initiatives that may affect US education policies and programs. It coordinates the Department's international presence by working with the private sector, foreign governments and international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).⁸⁸²

Commitment to Education⁸⁸³

Since 2000, the United States has generally complied with its G8 commitments to education. As per the Digital Opportunities Task Force (DOT Force) created in the 2000 Okinawa Charter on Global Information Society, the US government encouraged private and non-profit sector research on the 'digital divide'.⁸⁸⁴ In 2002, the same year as the Kananaskis Summit where G8 leaders reaffirmed their commitment to basic education, President George W. Bush announced the Africa Education Initiative (AEI), with the goal of increasing access to quality basic education in Africa. The AEI was given an initial trust of US\$200 million over a five-year plan.⁸⁸⁵ In 2005, the United States attended a meeting of Arab education ministers as part of its broader commitment to the G8 Plan for Broader Middle East and North African reform.⁸⁸⁶

After the 2005 Gleneagles Summit: Education for All and the Fast Track Initiative

To meet the 2005 Gleneagles commitment to education in Africa, the US committed an additional US\$400 million to the AEI.⁸⁸⁷ At the Fifth Meeting of the High Level Group on EFA in November 2005, the US Government, as represented by the Deputy-Administrator for USAID, Frederick Schieck, also endorsed the importance of multilateral coordination of education policy, and emphasized the need to

⁸⁷⁹ Basic Education, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 15 July 2003. Date of Access: 4 May 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/education_and_universities/basic-ed.htm

⁸⁸⁰ The Millennium Challenge Account, Millennium Challenge Corporation (Washington) N.D. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. http://www.mca.gov/about_us/overview/index.shtml

⁸⁸¹ US Department of Education (Washington) 2006. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.ed.gov/index.jhtml?src=a>

⁸⁸² International Affairs Office, US Department of Education (Washington), 12 December 2005. Date of Access: 2 July 2006. <http://www.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/international/index.html>

⁸⁸³ Some compliance information from recent G8 Research Group Analytical and Compliance Studies. Please see Appendix I and J, and individual compliance reports for more information: Analytical and Compliance Studies, G8 Research Group (Toronto). <http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/evaluations/index.html>

⁸⁸⁴ Issue Objectives for the Genoa Summit Meeting 2001: DOT Force, G8 Research Group (Toronto), June 2001. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.g7.utoronto.ca/evaluations/2001genoa/objectives/dotforce.html>

⁸⁸⁵ Africa Education Initiative, The White House (Washington), 20 June 2002. Date of Access: 4 May 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2002/06/20020620-18.html>

⁸⁸⁶ G8 Education Ministers to Convene in Amman, Jordan Embassy (Washington), 5 May 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://www.jordanembassyus.org/05052005001.htm>

⁸⁸⁷ USAID Administrator Natsios Lauds Progress on Aid to Africa at G-8 Summit, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 11 July 2005. Date of Access: 5 July 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2005/pr050711.html>

increase investment in adult literacy and education among marginalized populations.⁸⁸⁸ However, while Schieck also presented a pledge of US\$65 million to FTI countries to improve accessibility for basic education, he stressed that the financing gap for the FTI can only be addressed when there is a series of coordinated actions that include increased recipient country responsibility and capacity. Additionally, Schieck chose not to endorse a complete abolition of school fees, stating that proposals to do so are supported by inadequate empirical evidence.⁸⁸⁹

Current Development Programs for Education

Millennium Challenge Corporation

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a government agency, oversees the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA), a bilateral development fund for initiatives that promote economic growth and poverty reduction. The MCC uses Primary Education Expenditures and Girls' Primary Education Completion as criteria of eligibility for MCA funding.⁸⁹⁰ However, only one of the compacts that has been signed since the MCA's inception in 2003 is directly related to education.

In July 2005, the MCC and the government of Burkina Faso launched a US\$12.9 million program that aims to improve the completion rate of primary education by girls in Burkina Faso.⁸⁹¹ The funding will be used for: constructing new schools; providing rewards to families of girls with high attendance rates; changing the infrastructure of schools to provide more gender-separated facilities to acknowledge cultural sensitivities; and mounting public education campaigns to improve female school attendance.⁸⁹² While the program in Burkina Faso is encouraging and the inclusion of primary education and gender-equality in the criterion marks a direct commitment to the Dakar Framework for Action, the MCC has focused the majority of its funding on economic development initiatives.⁸⁹³ Since MCC funding is compact-specific, this results in less funding for other development programs, including education.⁸⁹⁴

African Education Initiative

In 2005, President Bush doubled the funding of the AEI for an additional US\$400 million, and extended the plan for an additional four years.⁸⁹⁵ In all, the program aims to train half a million educators, provide 300 000 scholarships to young girls, and launch partnerships between "historically black colleges and universities."⁸⁹⁶

To date, AEI has trained 300 000 educators and has given two million new books to African educational institutions. In addition, 120 000 scholarships have been provided through the Ambassador's Girls Scholarship Program, an initiative that supplies young African girls with the tuition fees, books and

⁸⁸⁸ Final Communiqué, Fifth Meeting of the High-Level Group on Education for All (Beijing) 30 November 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/policy_group/HLG2005_communiquefinal.doc

⁸⁸⁹ Points for Mr. Schieck, Session IV: Resource Mobilization and Aid Effectiveness, Addresses and Presentations, 30 November 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006.

http://www.unesco.org/education/efa/global_co/policy_group/HLG5_presentations/SessionIV/USAID.doc

⁸⁹⁰ Report on the Criteria and Methodology for Determining the Eligibility of Candidate Countries for Millennium Challenge Account Assistance in FY2006, Millennium Challenge Corporation (Washington). Date of Access: 6 May 2006.

http://www.mca.gov/about_us/congressional_reports/FY06_Criteria_Methodology.pdf

⁸⁹¹ Burkina Faso Fact Sheet, Millennium Challenge Corporation (Washington) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006.

http://www.mca.gov/public_affairs/fact_sheets/Burkina_Faso_threshold_program_fact_sheet.shtml

⁸⁹² Burkina Faso Fact Sheet, Millennium Challenge Corporation (Washington) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006.

http://www.mca.gov/public_affairs/fact_sheets/Burkina_Faso_threshold_program_fact_sheet.shtml

⁸⁹³ Fact Sheet, Millennium Challenge Corporation (Washington) 8 May 2006. Date of Access: 6 May 2006.

http://www.mca.gov/public_affairs/fact_sheets/index.shtml

⁸⁹⁴ President Bush's FY2007 Budget Request, Debt Aids Trade Africa (Washington) 6 February 2006. Date of Access: 6 May 2006.

<http://www.data.org/pdf/POTUSFY07Request.pdf>

⁸⁹⁵ The Africa Education Initiative, United States Department of State (Washington) August 2005. Date of Access: 5 May 2006.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0805/ijee/lartique.htm>

⁸⁹⁶ The Africa Education Initiative, United States Department of State (Washington) August 2005. Date of Access: 5 May 2006.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0805/ijee/lartique.htm>

uniforms they need to attend school.⁸⁹⁷ Additionally, the AEI targets groups least likely to attend school: orphans, marginalized students, and girls.⁸⁹⁸ Beyond literacy, the AEI also focuses on improving access to “productivity-increasing” job skills training.⁸⁹⁹

Centers of Excellence for Teacher Training

Another presidential initiative, Centers of Excellence for Teacher Training (CETT), was originally launched in 2001 at the Summit of the Americas. Funded by USAID, CETT is a ten-year child literacy program that aims to lower high illiteracy rates among children of Latin America and the Caribbean through the improved training of educators. The program is specifically designed for “disadvantaged teachers and students,” emphasizes cultural relevance and sensitivity, and includes mechanisms for feedback and follow-up in order to improve student achievement.⁸⁹⁹ Between 2002 and 2004, CETT trained nearly 6000 teachers in the Caribbean, Central and South America.⁹⁰⁰ Additionally, CETT encourages child literacy through the establishment of libraries and access to useful technology such as the Internet and educational databases.⁹⁰¹

While CETT has been successful, USAID has recently decreased its funding. 2005 saw funding for CETT drop nearly 15%, to US\$14.38 million.⁹⁰² Proposed funding for 2006 also notes a small decrease, to US\$14 million.⁹⁰³ Current initiatives seem to be encouraging private sector involvement. INMED Partnerships for Children, a non-profit organization, has been contracted by USAID to mobilize and manage private sector participation.⁹⁰⁴

Higher Education for Development

Sponsored by USAID and six educational associations, The Higher Education for Development (HED) program facilitates and supports partnerships between US colleges and universities, and higher education institutions in the developing world,⁹⁰⁵ having administered grants of up to US\$200 000 for development programs.⁹⁰⁶ Sample projects include: a training program for skill development called the iNdlovu Partnership for Lifelong Learning (iPLLL) in South Africa,⁹⁰⁷ the promotion of computer literacy among educators in Rwanda,⁹⁰⁸ and improvements in Jamaica’s Institute of Hospitality and Tourism.⁹⁰⁹

⁸⁹⁷ Laura Bush Announces New U.S. Funds To Fight AIDS in Nigeria, United States Diplomatic Mission to Italy (Rome) 18 January 2006. Date of Access: 4 May 2006. http://www.usembassy.it/viewer/article.asp?article=/File2006_01/alia/a6011808.htm

⁸⁹⁸ Fact Sheet: United States and G8 Renew Strong Commitment to Africa, The White House (Washington) 8 July 2005. Date of Access: 7 May 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/07/20050708-3.html>

⁸⁹⁹ Literacy Challenge, Partnerships to Foster Reading for All Children (Sterling) 2004. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. <http://www.readingforallchildren.org/index.php/about/challenge>

⁹⁰⁰ Winter 2005 Newsletter, Centers of Excellence For Teacher Training (Sterling) Winter 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. http://www.readingforallchildren.org/pdfs/cett_newsletter_winter2005.pdf

⁹⁰¹ Winter 2005 Newsletter, Centers of Excellence For Teacher Training (Sterling) Winter 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. http://www.readingforallchildren.org/pdfs/cett_newsletter_winter2005.pdf

⁹⁰² Data Sheet for CETT, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 2004. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget/cbj2005/lac/pdf/598-023.pdf>

⁹⁰³ Data Sheet for CETT, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 2005. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/budget/cbj2006/lac/pdf/lacreg598-023.pdf>

⁹⁰⁴ Get Involved, Centers of Excellence in Teacher Training (Sterling) 2004. Date of Access: 6 May 2006. <http://readingforallchildren.org/index.php/getinvolved>

⁹⁰⁵ Knowledge, Partnership, Results, Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (Washington). Date of Access: 28 May 2006. <http://www.aascu.org/alo/working/WORK.htm>

⁹⁰⁶ Educational Partnerships, US Agency for International Development (Washington) 18 June 2003. Date of Access: 5 May 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/education_and_universities/partnerships.htm

⁹⁰⁷ ALO Partnerships in Africa, Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (Washington) 13 February 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.aascu.org/alo/working/Africa.htm#191>

⁹⁰⁸ ALO Partnerships in Africa, Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (Washington) 13 February 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.aascu.org/alo/working/Africa.htm#273>

⁹⁰⁹ ALO Partnerships in Latin America and the Caribbean, Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation in Development (Washington) 13 February 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.aascu.org/alo/working/LAC.htm#017>

HED began awarding grants for partnerships in 1998 and no new grants have been awarded since 2004.⁹¹⁰

Global Workforce in Transition

Global Workforce in Transition (GWIT) is a consortium of organizations led by USAID and the Education Development Centre (EDC) that assesses and supports workforce development in developing countries. GWIT analyzes factors inhibiting or contributing to economic growth in USAID countries and provides solutions in the form of development systems. GWIT is particularly focused on preparing the workforce of developing countries for the open exchange system of the new global economy.⁹¹¹ In July 2002, GWIT was awarded a five year Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC) with an endowment of US\$35 million. It has so far been active in South Africa, Morocco, Armenia, and Macedonia.⁹¹²

Information and communication technology for development

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is integrated into 95% of USAID's activities, either as a development tool or as an independent initiative.⁹¹³ Current initiatives include: the Digital Freedom Initiative (DFI), a joint partnership between public and private sectors seeking to increase ICT capabilities and applications in partner countries (currently Senegal, Indonesia, Peru and Jordan);⁹¹⁴ Digital Opportunity through Technology and Communications (DOT-COM), which provides grants to developmental organizations promoting ICT in the fields of policy, access and education;⁹¹⁵ and the Last Mile initiative to provide low-cost, sustainable ICT to rural areas in developing countries.⁹¹⁶ Key achievements include increasing ICT capacity through the training of over 5 000 students in thirty-two countries in ICT (in collaboration with Cisco Academies); the implementation of ICT technology into HIV/AIDS prevention and rural energy projects; ICT policy reform; and the creation of multilateral collaborations to ensure cyber-security and lower prices for Internet use.⁹¹⁷

Domestic Programs for Building a 'Knowledge Economy'

In addition to the US' development programs for education, the Department of Education is involved in ensuring educational quality, access and growth in the country. In 2001 President Bush called for the establishment of the No Child Left Behind program, designed to improve public primary and secondary school education.⁹¹⁸ As well, in recognizing the need for greater investment in its knowledge-based economy, President Bush announced the American Competitiveness Initiative, a US\$5.9 billion plan (for Fiscal Year 2007) to strengthen the country's ability to innovate and remain globally competitive in the

⁹¹⁰ Partnership Index, Association Liason Office for Universtiy Cooperation in Development (Washington) 13 February 2006. Date of Access: 28 June 2006. <http://www.aascu.org/alo/working/programindex.htm#2004>.

⁹¹¹ Global Workforce in Transition (GWIT): The Link between Global Competitiveness and Relevant Education and Training, Global Workforce in Transition (Washington) 5 March 2005. Date of Access: 29 June 2006. <http://www.gwit.us/default.asp>

⁹¹² Education and Training Activities: GWT, United States Agency for International Development (Washington). Date of Access: 29 June 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/educ_training/gwt.htm

⁹¹³ Information and Communication Technology for Development: USAID's Worldwide Program, United States Agency for International Development/Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (Washington) May 2004. Date of Access: 29 June 2006. <http://dec.usaid.gov/partners/ict/USAID ICT Report May2004.pdf>

⁹¹⁴ About DFI, Digital Freedom Initiative (Washington). Date of Access: 29 June 2006. <http://www.dfi.gov/pages/about.html>

⁹¹⁵ Digital Opportunity through Technology and Communication Partnerships, United States Agency for International Development (Washington). Date of Access: 29 June 2006. http://www.usaid.gov/info_technology/dotcom/

⁹¹⁶ Last Mile Initiative Details, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 31 August 2005. Date of Access: 29 June 2006.

⁹¹⁷ Digital Opportunity in the Developing World, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) December 2003. Date of Access: 29 June 2006.

http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/economic_growth_and_trade/info_technology/usaidictfactsheetforwsis.pdf

⁹¹⁸ No Child Left Behind, US Department of Education (Washington) 2006. Date of Access: 3 July 2006. <http://www.ed.gov/nclb/landing.jhtml?src=pb>

present and future. This is to be achieved through increased investments in math, science, and foreign language education in schools, as well as greater outlays for research and development.⁹¹⁹

In addition to these programs, the United States' Department of Education International Affairs Office manages education partnerships ranging from programs for vocational education to cultural exchanges with its fellow OECD countries, including Japan, Denmark, Mexico and those in the European Union.⁹²⁰ The International Affairs Office also coordinates a learning technologies program with fellow Organization of American States member, Brazil, and fosters university partnerships through its US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program.⁹²¹

Conclusion

At St. Petersburg, it is likely that President Bush will lend his political support to broad priorities such as improving education quality and access, and investing in innovative enterprises. President Bush can also be expected to continue his support for the Dakar Framework, EFA and FTI, and herald the successes of the Africa Education Initiative. Although the US government presently has several concurrent initiatives geared towards EFA, such as the Africa Education Initiative and bilateral agreements pursued through the MCA, it lacks multilateral coordination for the achievement of EFA goals outlined in the Dakar Framework. Furthermore, the US government has not indicated that it will recover the current funding shortfall for the FTI. Finally, the current high level of ICT integration in US development activities can be expected to continue, and President Bush may encourage fellow G8 nations to adopt similar targets.

Compiled By:
Farnam Bidgoli

⁹¹⁹ American Competitiveness Initiative, The White House (Washington), February 2006. Date of Access: 3 July 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/stateoftheunion/2006/aci/index.html>.

⁹²⁰ Bilateral Cooperation, International Affairs Office, US Department of Education (Washington), 2006. Date of Access: 3 July 2006. <http://www.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/international/bilateral.html>.

⁹²¹ US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program, US Department of Education (Washington), 2006. Date of Access: 3 July 2006. <http://www.ed.gov/programs/fipsebrazil/index.html>.

Appendix A

G7/8 Official Level Bodies⁹²²

First Cycle (8)

1975 London Nuclear Suppliers Group
1977 International Nuclear Fuel Cycle Evaluation Group
1979 High Level Group on Energy Conservation and Alternative Energy
1979 International Energy Technology Group
1979 High Level Group to Review Oil Import Reduction Progress
1980 International Team to Promote Collaboration on Specific Projects on Energy Technology
1980 High Level Group to Review Result on Energy
1981 Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)

Second Cycle (9)

1982 Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment
1982 Consultations and Coordination on East-West Relations
1982 Representatives to control exports of strategic goods
1982 Procedures for multilateral surveillance of economic performance
1985 Expert Group for Foreign Ministers
1985 Expert Group on Desertification and Dry Zone Grains
1985 Expert Group on Environmental Measurement
1986 Group of Experts on Terrorism
1987 International Ethics Committee on AIDS.

Third Cycle (14)

1989 Financial Action Task Force (FATF) (with others, secretariat from OECD)
1989 International Ethics Committee on AIDS
1990 Chemical Action Task Force, 1990-1992 (with others)
1990 Task Force to Study the State of the Soviet Economy
(1990 Permanent Working Group on Assistance to Russia)
1990 Gulf Crisis Financial Coordination Group
1992 Nuclear Safety Working Group
1992 Group of Experts on the Prevention and Treatment of AIDS
1993 Support Implementation Group (SIG)
1993 G8 Non-Proliferation Experts Group
1995 Counterterrorism Experts Group
1995 G7/P8 Senior Experts Group on Transnational Organized Crime (Lyon Group)
1995 GIP National Co-ordinators
1995 Development Committee Task Force on MDB's

Fourth Cycle (16)

1996 Nuclear Safety Working Group
1996 Lyon Group
1997 Expert Group on Financial Crime
1997 Subgroup on High Tech Crime (of the Lyon Group)
1997 Officials Group on Forests
2000 Conflict Prevention Officials Meeting (CPOM)
2000 Renewable Energy Task Force
2000 Digital Opportunities Task Force (Dot-Force)
2000 Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis
2001 G8 Task Force on Education

⁹²² Kirton, John. The G8 and Energy Security: Past Performance, St. Petersburg Possibilities. Date of Access: 1 July 2006.
http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_energy_060623.pdf

2001 Personal Representatives for Africa (APR)
2002 Energy Officials Follow-up Process
2002 G8 Global Partnership Review Mechanism
2002 G8 Nuclear Safety and Security Group
2002 G8 Experts on Transport Security
2002 Global Health Security Laboratory Network

Fifth Cycle

2003 High Level Working Group on Biometrics
2003 Counter-Terrorism Action Group
2003 RadioActive Sources Working Group
2003 Senior Officials for Science and Technology for Sustainable Development
2003 G8 Enlarged Dialogue Meeting
2003 Forum for the Partnership with Africa, November 10, 2003
2003 Global Health Security Action Group (GHSAG) Laboratory Network
2003 Technical Working Group on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness
2004 Global Partnership Senior Officials Group (GPSOG), January 2004
2004 Global Partnership Working Group (GPWG)
2004 Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise
2004 Microfinance Consultative Group
2004 Best Practises Microfinance Training Centre
2004 Democracy Assistance Dialogue
2004 Task Force on Investment
2004 G8 Expert-Level Meetings on Peace Support in Africa
2004 Friends of the Convention on Corruption
2004 G8 Accelerated Response Teams on Corruption
2004 International Partnership for a Hydrogen Economy (IPHE)
2004 IPHE Implementation-Liaison Committee
2004 Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF)
2004 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership ((REEEP)
2004 Generation IV International Forum (GIF)
2004 Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS)

Note: Excludes one-off meeting or conferences

Appendix B

G8 Priority Health Directions⁹²³

2002 Chair's Summary

We underlined the devastating consequences for Africa's development of **diseases** such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS. In addition to our ongoing commitments to combat these diseases, we committed to provide sufficient resources to eradicate **polio** by 2005.

2003 Chair's Summary

As this contribution should rely more strongly on structural reforms and flexibility, we therefore reaffirm our commitment to:

- implement pension and **health care** reforms, as we face a common challenge of ageing populations;

Health. We agreed on measures to:

- strengthen the **Global Fund** to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and other bilateral and multilateral efforts, notably through our active participation in the donors' and supporters' conference to be hosted in Paris this July;
- improve access to **health care**, including to drugs and treatments at affordable prices, in poor countries;
- encourage research on **diseases** mostly affecting developing countries;
- mobilise the extra funding needed to eradicate **polio** by 2005;
- improve international co-operation against new epidemics such as **SARS**.

2004 Chair's Summary

The challenges faced by Africa, including armed conflict, **HIV/AIDS**, famine, and poverty, represent a compelling call for international cooperation to support the continent's efforts to achieve lasting progress. We met with the Presidents of Algeria, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, and Uganda, and we committed to ... Endorse and establish a Global **HIV Vaccine** Enterprise to accelerate **HIV vaccine development**. The United States will host later this year a meeting of all interested stakeholders in the **Enterprise**; Take all necessary steps to eradicate **polio** by 2005 and close the **funding gap** by our next Summit. We have already closed the funding gap for 2004.

2005 Chair's Summary

The G8 in return agreed a comprehensive plan to support Africa's progress. This is set out in our separate statement today. We agreed ...to boost investment in **health** and education, and to take action to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB and other killer diseases.

⁹²³ Kirton, John. The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative, 8 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf

APPENDIX C

G7/8-Centred Health Institutions⁹²⁴

Official-Level Institutions

International Ethics Committee on AIDS — est. 1987

“We take note of the creation of an International Ethics Committee on AIDS which met in Paris in May 1989, as decided at the Summit of Venice (June 1987). It assembled the Summit participants and the other members of the EC, together with the active participation of the World Health Organization.” (*Communiqué*, Paris, July 1989)

Group of Experts on the Prevention and Treatment of AIDS — est. 1992

Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria — est. 2001

“At Okinawa last year, we pledged to make a quantum leap in the fight against infectious diseases and to break the vicious cycle between disease and poverty. To meet that commitment and to respond to the appeal of the UN General Assembly, we have launched with the UN Secretary-General a new Global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. We are determined to make the fund operational before the end of the year. We have committed \$1.3 billion. The Fund will be a public-private partnership and we call on other countries, the private sector, foundations, and academic institutions to join with their own contributions — financially, in kind and through shared expertise. We welcome the further commitments already made amounting to some \$500 million.” (*Communiqué*, Genoa, July 22, 2001)

Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise — est. 2004

“We believe the time is right for the major scientific and other stakeholders — both public and private sector, in developed and developing countries — to come together in a more organized fashion. This concept has been proposed by an international group of scientists. Published as a “Policy Forum” in *Science* magazine. Klausner, RD, Fauci AS, et al: “The need for a global HIV vaccine enterprise.” *Science* 300:2036, 2003. We endorse this concept and call for the establishment of a Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise — a virtual consortium to accelerate HIV vaccine development by enhancing coordination, information sharing, and collaboration globally.” (*G8 Action to Endorse and Establish a Global Vaccine Enterprise*, Sea Island, July 2004)

G8 Parallel Institutions

Global Health Security Initiative Ministerial Meetings, 2001-

Global Health Security Laboratory Network — est. 2002

“We recognized that timely and effective collaboration among high-level laboratories is essential for global preparedness and response to biological incidents. We launched a new international network of high-level laboratories — the Global Health Security Laboratory Network — that is working to coordinate, standardize, and validate diagnostic capabilities, and contribute to global health surveillance and response to disease outbreaks.” (Statement released by Health Ministers, Mexico City, December 6, 2002)

Global Health Security Action Group (GHSAG) Laboratory Network — est. 2003

“Steps were taken to strengthen the coordination and collaboration among participating national high-level laboratories through the Global Health Security Action Group (GHSAG) Laboratory Network.” (Statement released following the Fourth Ministerial Meeting on Health Security and Bioterrorism, Berlin, November 7, 2003)

⁹²⁴ Kirton, John. The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative, 8 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf

Technical Working Group on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness — est. 2003

“Furthermore, we recognize that preparedness for and response to bioterrorism have much in common with preparedness for and response to naturally occurring global health threats such as pandemic influenza. Much work needs to be done to enhance preparedness by member countries and globally by addressing critical issues for an effective pandemic response. To this end we have agreed to the Terms of Reference for the Technical Working Group on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness. The Technical Working Group will focus on critical gaps related to the rapid development, evaluation and availability of pandemic influenza vaccines; and, the optimal use of antiviral drugs. This group will carry out its work in conjunction with the WHO and other appropriate international organizations.” (Statement released following the Fourth Ministerial Meeting on Health Security and Bioterrorism, Berlin, November 7, 2003)

APPENDIX D

New Cases of AIDS per Year, G8 Countries⁹²⁵

	G8 avg.	U.S. ⁹²⁶	JAP ⁹²⁷	GER ⁹²⁸	FRA ⁹²⁹	UK ⁹³⁰	ITA	CDA	RUS ⁹³¹
1979								1 ⁹³²	
1980				0	4		0	5	0
1981		339		1	8		0	9	0
1982		1,201		9	31		1	26	0
1983		3,153		40	92		8	68	0
1984		6,368		116	236		37	167	0
1985	2,254	12,044	6	311	583	-	198	381	1 ⁹³³
1986	3,726	19,414	5	573	1,259	-	458	647	-
1987	5,736	29,105	14	1,038	2,252	-	1,030	977	-
1988	7,238	36,126	14	1,268	3,054	-	1,775	1,190	-
1989	8,803	43,499	21	1,589	3,809	-	2,482	1,420	-
1990	8,758	49,546	31	1,553	4,320	1,241	3,134	1,478	103
1991	10,553	60,573	35	1,767	4,657	1,393	3,827	1,622	81
1992	13,480	79,657	51	1,811	5,183	1,579	4,261	1,817	87
1993	13,688	79,879	85	1,900	5,514	1,788	4,818	1,889	106
1994	12,875	73,086	135	1,913	5,737	1,851	5,522	1,882	156
1995	11,653	69,984	169	1,695	5,253	1,771	5,659	1,773	198
1996	10,618	61,124	234	1,358	3,941	1,443	4,997	1,230	1,526
1997	8,251	49,379	250	773	2,168	1,078	3,292	815	1,804
1998	6,959	43,225	231	442	1,335	792	1,926	762	8,067
1999	8,024	41,356	300	-	1,808	756	3,220	701	19,846
2000	6,376	39,513	327	736 ⁹³⁴	1,717	830	2,026	481 ⁹³⁵	59,340
2001	6,404	39,206	332	693	1,679	728	1,797	395	88,422⁹³⁶
2002	7,373	40,267	308	655	-	877	1,753	380	
2003	6,602	41,831	336	353	686 ⁹³⁷	908	1,759 ⁹³⁸	349	39,699 ⁹³⁹
2004	9,169	42,514	385	-	2,697	813	-	237	-

NOTES:

- (1) This chart does not include HIV statistics. In most G8 countries (the epidemic is unclear in France and Italy) HIV prevalence is currently rising rapidly. www.unaids.org/epi2005/doc/EPIupdate2005_pdf_en/epi-update2005_en.pdf.
- (2) Bolded number is the peak of AIDS infections in that country.
- (3) Calculation of average does not include Russia, for which there is only HIV data, not AIDS data.

⁹²⁵ Kirton, John. The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative, 8 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf

⁹²⁶ Statistics from <www.avert.org/usastaty.htm>.

⁹²⁷ Statistics from <idsc.nih.gov/iasr/iasr-ge1.html>.

⁹²⁸ Statistics from <www-aids.med.unibo.it/eustat/>.

⁹²⁹ Statistics from <www-aids.med.unibo.it/eustat/>.

⁹³⁰ Statistics from <www.avert.org/statsyr.htm>.

⁹³¹ Russian statistics are based on HIV positive testing, not AIDS cases. Because the epidemic is relatively new in this country, AIDS statistics have not been generated.

⁹³² Statistics from <www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/aids-sida/aic04-00/pdf/aic0400e.pdf>.

⁹³³ From 1985-2000, statistics from <www.ilo.ru/aids/docs/dec02/cis/Russia-eng.pdf>.

⁹³⁴ From 2000 on, statistics from <epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-NK-04-018/EN/KS-NK-04-018-EN.PDF>

⁹³⁵ From 2001 onward, statistics from <www.avert.org/canstatr.htm>.

⁹³⁶ From 2001 onward, statistics from <www.unaids.ru/index.php?id=hiv-aids1&nm=2>

⁹³⁷ From <epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-NK-04-018/EN/KS-NK-04-018-EN.PDF>.

⁹³⁸ From <epp.eurostat.cec.eu.int/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-NK-04-018/EN/KS-NK-04-018-EN.PDF>.

⁹³⁹ The apparent decline in HIV prevalence in Russia "appears not to have represented an actual slowing of the epidemic; it reflected changes in HIV testing policy, the smaller number of tests carried out in population groups with high-risk behaviour (especially drug injectors and prisoners), and shortages of test kits (Pokrovskiy, 2005)." <www.unaids.org/epi2005/doc/EPIupdate2005_pdf_en/epi-update2005_en.pdf>.

APPENDIX E

Global HIV/AIDS Cases⁹⁴⁰

Year	New Infections	Cumulative Infections (AIDS)	Cumulative No. People Living with HIV/AIDS	Annual Deaths	Cumulative Deaths	Number in Treatment
1970-1980	100,000-300,000 est.					
1983 ⁹⁴¹	3,064			1,292		
1984 ⁹⁴²		8,569			3,711	
1985		20,303				
1986		38,401				
1987		71,751				
1988						
1989		142,000 ⁹⁴³	5-10m			
1990		307,000 ⁹⁴⁴	8-10m			
1991		450,000 ⁹⁴⁵	9-11m			
1992						
1993						
1994		985,119				
1995	4.7m est.	1,291,810				
1996 ⁹⁴⁶	3m est.		23m est.		6.4m est.	
1997				2.3 m est.		
1998	5.8m est.					
1999			33 m est.	2.6 m est.		
2000	5.3 m		36.1 m	3 m	21.8 m	
2001	5 m	35m	40 m	3 m		
2002	5 million		42 million	3.1 m		
2003	5 m	38m	40 m	3 m		
2004						
2005	4.9m	40.3m		3.1m	25+m	1m

SOURCES:

Avert.org <www.avert.org/historyi.htm>;

World Health Organization <www.who.int/hiv/epiupdates/en>.

⁹⁴⁰ Kirton, John. The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative, 8 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf

⁹⁴¹ Data for USA only.

⁹⁴² Data for USA and Europe only.

⁹⁴³ Number of reported AIDS cases, WHO estimated that actual number (beyond those reported) was over 400,000.

⁹⁴⁴ Number of reported AIDS cases, WHO estimated that actual number (beyond those reported) was closer to 1 million.

⁹⁴⁵ Number of reported AIDS cases, WHO estimated that actual number (beyond those reported) was 1.5 million.

⁹⁴⁶ UNAIDS became operational on January 1, 1996, and with it new methodologies for reporting and estimating cases were used.

APPENDIX F

Cumulative (Probable) Cases of SARS Worldwide⁹⁴⁷

Country	February 2003	March 31, 2003	April 30, 2003	May 31, 2003	June 30, 2003	July 11, 2003	Final Data (December 31, 2003)
Asian Countries							
Vietnam	1:0	54:4	63:5	63:5	63:5	63:5	63:5
Hong Kong, China		530:13	1,589:157	1,739:278	1,755:298	1,755:298	1,755:299
Singapore		91:2	201:24	206:31	206:32	206:32	238:33
Thailand		5:1	7:2	8:2	9:2	9:2	9:2
Taiwan, China		10:0	78:1	676:81	678:84	671:84	346:37
Macao, China			1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
Malaysia			6:2	5:2	5:2	5:2	5:2
Mongolia			6:0	9:0	9:0	9:0	9:0
Philippines			4:2	12:2	14:2	14:2	14:2
ROKorea			1:0	3:0	3:0	3:0	3:0
G8 Countries							
Canada		44:4	148:20	188:30	252:37	250:38	251:43
Germany		5:0	7:0	10:0	10:0	10:0	9:0
UK		3:0	6:0	4:0	4:0	4:0	4:0
Ireland		2:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
USA		59:0	52:0	66:0	73:0	75:0	27:0
Italy		2:0	9:0	9:0	5:0	4:0	4:0
France		1:0	5:0	7:0	7:0	7:1	7:1
Japan			2:0				
Russia				1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
EU Countries							
Spain			1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
Sweden			3:0	3:0	3:0	3:0	5:0
Finland				1:0	1:0	1:0	
G20 Countries							
Australia			4:0	6:0	5:0	5:0	6:0
Brazil			2:0	2:0	3:0	1:0	
China		806:34	3,460:159	5,328:332	5,327:348	5,327:348	5,327:349
India				3:0	3:0	-	3:0
Indonesia			2:0	2:0	2:0	2:0	2:0
South Africa			1:0	1:1	1:1	1:1	1:1
Other European Countries							
Romania		3:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
Switzerland		3:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
Bulgaria			1:0				
Other Countries							
Kuwait			1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
Columbia				1:0	1:0	1:0	
New Zealand				1:0	1:0	1:0	1:0
TOTAL		1,622:58	5,663:372	8,360:764	8,447:811	8,437:813	8,098:774

Reported cases: reported deaths

SOURCE: www.who.int

⁹⁴⁷ Kirton, John. The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative, 8 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf

APPENDIX G

Confirmed Cases (Cumulative) of H5N1 Bird Flu⁹⁴⁸

Country	1996-2003	2003-2004	2004-Q1	2004-Q2	2005-Q1	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Other Asia											
Thailand		Y ⁹⁴⁹ :0:0	Y:12:8	Y ⁹⁵⁰ :17:12 ⁹⁵¹	Y:0:0				Y:18:12	Y:21:13	Y:22:14
Vietnam			Y:23:16	Y:27:20	Y:33:20		Y:64:21			Y:66:22	
Cambodia			Y:0:0	Y:0:0	Y:4:4						
Lao PDR			Y:0:0	Y:0:0							
Malaysia				Y:0:0							
Mongolia							Y:0:0				
Other Europe											
Kazakhstan							Y:0:0				
Romania									Y:0:0		
Croatia									Y:0:0		
Turkey									Y:0:0		
G12											
Hong Kong	Y:18:6	0:20:7									
China	Y:0:0		Y:0:0	Y:0:0	Y:0:0		Y:0:0		Y:0:0	Y:3:2	Y:7:3
South Korea		Y:0:0									
Indonesia			Y:0:0	Y:0:0		Y:1:0		Y:4:0	Y:5:0	Y:11:7	Y:16:11
G8											
Japan			Y:0:0								
Russia						Y:0:0					
UK									Y ⁹⁵² :0:0		
Canada										Y ⁹⁵³ :0:0	
EU											
Brussels				Y ⁹⁵⁴ :0:0							
Middle East											
Iraq											
TOTAL											

⁹⁴⁸ Kirton, John. The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative, 8 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf

⁹⁴⁹ First cases of large mammal (non-human) infection in leopards and tigers fed on chickens.

⁹⁵⁰ Outbreak and death in 147 tigers in Thai zoo.

⁹⁵¹ First case of human-to-human transmission.

⁹⁵² H5N1 confirmed in imported parrot, held in quarantine and died.

⁹⁵³ Two outbreaks in birds in Canada (in Manitoba and B.C.). H5N1 virus confirmed, but not the same virulent strain as in Asia. (www.cbc.ca/story/canada/national/2005/11/20/avian-flu051120.html)

⁹⁵⁴ Two eagles imported (illegally) into Brussels from Thailand infected with H5N1.

Country	Jan 2006	Feb	Mar	April	May	Total human cases: deaths
Other Asia						
Thailand						22:13
Vietnam						66:22
Cambodia			Y:1:1	Y:6:6		6:6
Lao PDR						0
Malaysia						0
Mongolia						0
Other Europe						
Kazakhstan						0
Romania						0
Croatia						0
Turkey	Y:21:4					21:4
Azerbaijan		Y:0:0	Y:7:5	Y:8:5		8:5
Bulgaria		Y:0:0				0
Slovenia	Y:10:7	Y:0:0				0
G12						
Hong Kong	Y:19:14					20:7
China		Y:14:8	Y:16:11	Y:18:12		18:21
South Korea						0
Indonesia		Y:27:20	Y:29:22	Y:32:24	Y:48:36	48:36
India		Y:0:0				0
G8						
Japan						0
Russia						0
UK						0
Canada	N:1:1					0
Italy		Y:0:0				0
Germany		Y ⁹⁵⁵ :0:0	Y ⁹⁵⁶ :0:0			0
France		Y:0:0				0
EU						
Brussels						0
Greece		Y:0:0				0
Austria		Y:0:0				0
Sweden			Y:0:0			0
Middle East						
Iraq		Y:2:2				2:2
Iran		Y:0:0				0
Egypt		Y:0:0	Y:5:2	Y:12:4	Y:14:6	14:6
Afghanistan			Y:0:0			0
Africa						
Nigeria		Y:0:0	Y:0:0			0
Niger		Y:0:0				0
Djibouti					Y:1:0	1:0
TOTAL						226:122

NOTES:

Mortality rate from H5N1 cases in humans is approximately 54%.

⁹⁵⁵ H5N1 confirmed in Germany in both poultry and three domestic cats (Baltic island of Ruegen).

⁹⁵⁶ H5N1 confirmed in Germany in a second mammalian species, a stone marten, in the same area where the infected domestic cats were located (Baltic island of Ruegen).

1. Ratio used is birds infected : human cases : human deaths
2. 2004-Q1 = January – June; 2004-Q2 = July – December; 2005-Q1 = January – June
3. + means that the country announced an initial human infection, and then subsequently announced “more” infections in humans, without a specific number.
4. Total human cases : deaths in all cases that have been confirmed by laboratory tests, and does not account for all “suspected” or “probable” human H5N1 infections.
5. Y = yes, a poultry outbreak has occurred.

SOURCE: www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/updates/en

APPENDIX H

Annual Health Care Spending per Capita⁹⁵⁷

(US\$ at average exchange rates)

	G7/8	U.S.	JAP	GER	FRA	UK	ITA	CDA	RUS
1997	1,400	1,784	1,803	2,073	1,728	1,253	1,133	1,305	122
1998	1,406	1,824	1,715	2,075	1,754	1,349	1,154	1,297	77
1999	1,468	1,895	2,056	2,043	1,738	1,442	1,155	1,372	46
2000	1,467	2,005	2,245	1,807	1,568	1,444	1,114	1,490	66
2001	1,492	2,168	2,046	1,807	1,603	1,508	1,193	1,533	78
2002a	2,460	5,274	2,113	2,817	2,736	1,160	2,116	2,931	535

Based on data available from the World Health Organization: www.who.org

^a **Definition:** Total health expenditure per capita is the per capita amount of the sum of Public Health Expenditure (PHE) and Private Expenditure on Health (PvtHE). The international dollar is a common currency unit that takes into account differences in the relative purchasing power of various currencies. Figures expressed in international dollars are calculated using purchasing power parities (PPP), which are rates of currency conversion constructed to account for differences in price level between countries.”⁹⁵⁸

Percent of GDP spent on health — World Bank (2001): World Development Database Indicators

US	Germany	France	Canada	Japan	UK	Italy	Russia
13.9%	10.8%	9.6%	9.5%	8.0%	7.6%	8.4%	5.4%

Tables and information from: Kirton, John J. “The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf.

⁹⁵⁷ Kirton, John. The G8 and Global Health Governance: The Case for a 2006 Eurasian HIV/AIDS Initiative, 8 June 2006. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_health_060609.pdf

⁹⁵⁸ World Health Organization: Countries, 4 November 2005. Date of Access: 1 July 2006. www.who.int/countries/en/.

APPENDIX I

G8 Priority Education Directions⁹⁵⁹

2000 Okinawa Preamble

We must bravely seize the opportunities created by new technologies in such areas as information and communications technology (IT) and life sciences.

2002 Kananaskis Chair's Summary

We reviewed implementation of the DOT Force's Genoa Plan of Action and welcomed its initiatives to strengthen developing countries' readiness for e-development, such as the e-model to improve the efficiency of public administrations and to enhance the transparency of national budgeting.

We adopted a series of recommendations to assist developing countries to achieve universal primary education for all children and equal access to education for girls. We agreed to increase significantly our bilateral assistance for countries that have demonstrated a strong and credible policy and financial commitment to these goals.

2003 Evian Chair's Summary

As this contribution should rely more strongly on structural reforms and flexibility, we therefore reaffirm our commitment to: raise productivity through education and lifelong learning and by creating an environment where entrepreneurship can thrive, fostering competition and promoting public and private investment in knowledge and innovation.

2004 Sea Island Chair's Summary

Adopt a G-8 Plan of Support for Reform, which commits us to intensify and, in partnership with the region, expand our already strong individual and collective engagements, and launch new initiatives to support: democracy, literacy, entrepreneurship/vocational training, microfinance, and small business financing, among other things.

We supported progress in the multilateral effort against corruption and welcomed the completion of Comprehensive Anti-Corruption Compacts with Georgia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, and Peru. We noted the role information technology can play in promoting transparency.

2005 Gleneagles Chair's Summary

The G8 and African leaders agreed that if implemented these measures and the others set out in our comprehensive plan could:

- get all children into primary school
- deliver free basic health care and primary education for all.

⁹⁵⁹ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, 30 May 2006.. Date of Access: 1 July 2006.
http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

APPENDIX J

G8 Education Commitments Since 2000⁹⁶⁰

2000

2000-16: We will set up a Digital Opportunities Task Force (DOT force), which will be asked to report to our next meeting its findings and recommendations on global action to bridge the international information and knowledge divide.

2001

2001-29 / 2001-30: We reaffirm our commitment to help countries meet the Dakar Framework for Action goal of universal primary education by 2015... We will help foster assessment systems to measure progress, identify best practices and ensure accountability for results...

2001-38: We will continue to support the process and encourage all stakeholders to demonstrate ownership, to mobilize expertise and resources and to build on this successful cooperation.

2001-39: We will review the implementation of the Genoa Plan of Action at our next Summit on the basis of a report by the G8 Presidency.

2001-40: We also encourage development of an Action Plan on how e-government can strengthen democracy and the rule of law by empowering citizens and making the provision of essential government services more efficient.

2002

2002-93: Supporting the development and implementation by African countries of national educational plans that reflect the Dakar goals on Education for All, and encouraging support for those plans - particularly universal primary education - by the international community as an integral part of the national development strategies.

2003

2003-4: We reaffirm our commitment to raise productivity through education and lifelong learning and by creating an environment where entrepreneurship can thrive, fostering competition and promoting public and private investment in knowledge and innovation.

2004

2004(4)-11: Training teachers in techniques, including on-line learning, that enhances the acquisition of literacy skills among school-aged children, especially girls, and of functional literacy skills among adults.

2005

2005(3)-36: As part of this effort, we will work to support the Education for All agenda in Africa, including continuing our support for the Fast Track Initiative (FTI) and our efforts to help FTI-endorsed countries to develop sustainable capacity and identify the resources necessary to pursue their sustainable education strategies.

⁹⁶⁰ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, 30 May 2006.. Date of Access: 1 July 2006.
http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

APPENDIX K

G7/8-Centred Education Institutions⁹⁶¹

Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment (1982-1986)

The Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment was launched at the 1982 Summit to work with international institutions, particularly the OECD, to develop programs to create the appropriate economic, social and cultural conditions where technology will develop and flourish. The working group's final report was commented on at the 1986 Summit.

Digital Opportunities Task Force (Dot Force) (2000-2001)

The Dot Force was established in 2000 to recommend global action to bridge the international information and knowledge divide. They released their report in 2001.

G8 Task Force on Education (2001-2002)

The 2001 Genoa Communiqué noted that "We will establish a task force of senior G8 officials to advise us on how best to pursue the Dakar goals in co-operation with developing countries, relevant international organisations and other stakeholders. The task force will provide us with recommendations in time for our next meeting" (Genoa, 22 July, 2001, Communiqué). In 2002, the task force released their document "A New Focus on Education for All," which also incorporated opinions from individuals and organizations.

⁹⁶¹ John Kirton and Laura Sunderland, The G8 and Global Education Governance, 30 May 2006.. Date of Access: 1 July 2006.
http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/kirton2006/kirton_education_060530.pdf

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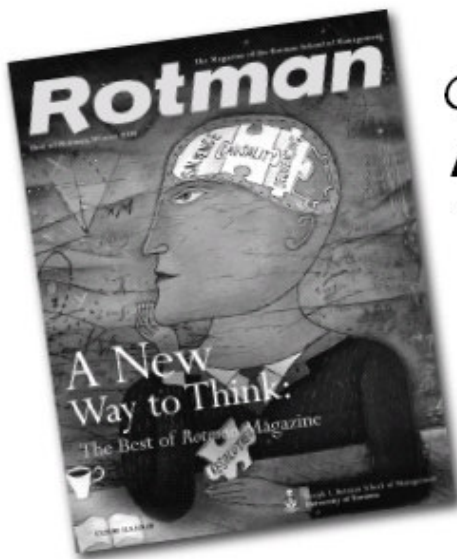
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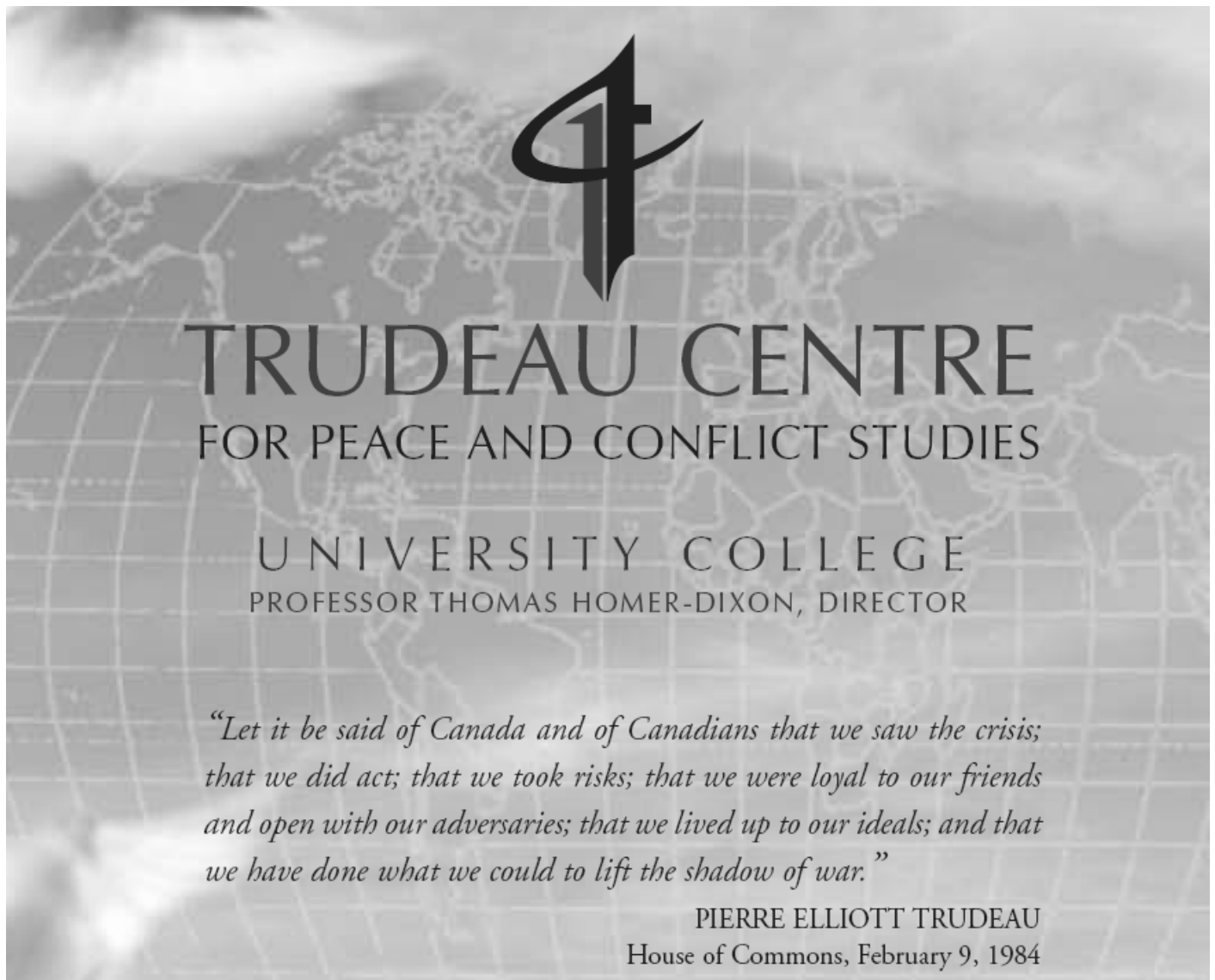
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