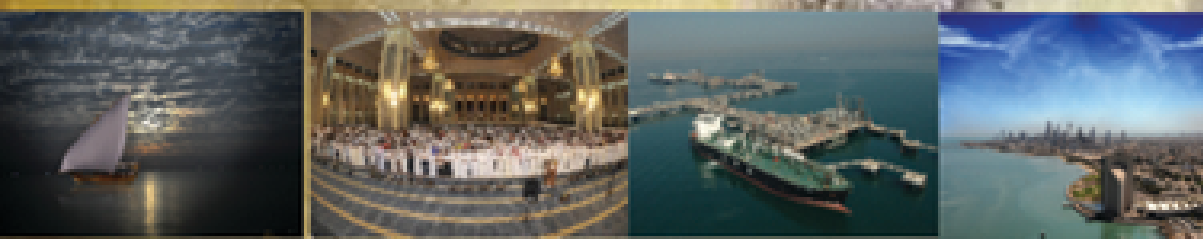**State of Kuwait
General Secretary of the
Supreme Council for
Planning and Development**

State of

Kuwait

The Millennium Development Goals

Country Progress Report 2010

UN
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STATE OF KUWAIT
The Millennium Development Goals Progress Report 2010

Foreword

In 2000, Kuwait has enthusiastically adopted the joint declaration of World Leaders of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). While Kuwait has already met many aspects of the MDGs, the government initiated a multitude of economic, social policies, and reforms to accelerate progress in this regard. It is believed that monitoring the achievement of MDGs provides an excellent opportunity to engage all formal and social stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector, and NGOs to make a concerted effort in attaining all aspects of these goals.

As an improvement over the two previous progress reports on MDGs (2003, 2005), this report features two additional sections: (1) the impact of the global financial crisis on progress towards achieving the MDGs in Kuwait; and, (2) the possible impact of climate change on attaining the various relevant aspects of MDGs. Through democratically-initiated measures and policies, Kuwait managed to properly control the ramifications of the global financial crisis, particularly, its impact on the ability of the government to pursue relevant MDG policies. Furthermore, it is also shown that climate change, as represented by sea level rise, will probably have minor impact on Kuwait as a coastal country; however this factor will be closely monitored to safeguard against any long-term impact beyond 2015.

This report reflects Kuwait's deep commitment to work closely with the international community. Kuwait is joining hands to improve the livelihood and quality of life through continuous stream of international economic aid and financial assistance. The main objective is to improve partner countries' ability to advance towards the achievement of their relevant MDGs. This is being done through the direct intervention of Kuwait Fund for Economic Development and other financial assistance programs as well as spontaneous NGOs' efforts.

The establishment of MDGs by world consensus under the leadership of the UN has motivated renewed interest in focusing international efforts on the betterment of humanity and safeguarding our planet. In conclusion, I think this report would be informative and helpful to all stakeholders, particularly those concerned with the progress of the status of development in Kuwait.

Nasser Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah
Prime Minister
State of Kuwait

Introduction

Over the past decade, considerable effort has been made to fulfill various stipulations of the MDG for social, economic, and ecological development in Kuwait. The latest approved development plan contained policies and targets that are consistent with MDG directions, a step that guaranteed continuous commitment to achieve these goals.

This report is in line with the conclusion of the previous two reports where Kuwait is capable of achieving the MDGs by the designated date of 2015. Three of the goals have already been achieved ahead of time (i.e., eradication of extreme poverty and hunger; reducing child mortality; and the contribution to developing a global partnership for development). So far, Kuwait has made significant strides in achieving other goals namely: universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowering women; improving maternal health; and combating HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and these goals are expected to be fully achieved by 2015. The environmental goal of protecting coastal erosion and rise in sea level is closely monitored by designated official entities in Kuwait for the next period.

One remaining challenging goal is ensuring environmental sustainability as measured by carbon dioxide emission indicators. While these emissions are required to decline over time, the trend for Kuwait is the reverse given the oil-producing nature of its economy. Luckily, when taken from a world scale angle, the relative size of Kuwait's share in world emissions is a minuscule 0.29 percent, a percentage that are currently managed by adopting technologies geared toward reducing carbon dioxide emission, diminishing oil wells flaring, re-using carbon monoxide in many oil excavation and extraction operations in partnership with the Euro-Fund, as well as producing and utilizing cleaner environmentally-friendly energy.

In closing, I would like to thank the General Secretariat for the Supreme Council for Planning and Development (GS-SCPD) for their key role as the national manager of UNDP programme in preparing this report. Furthermore, this document has been the result of the co-operation between GS-SCPD and the UNDP office in Kuwait, a partnership that is set to continue and grow in the future.

Ahmad Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah
Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs
State Minister of Housing and State Minister
for Development Affairs

I. Introduction and Background:

1. Adopted by 189 countries in 2000, the Millennium Development Goals "express the resolve of the world's political leaders to free their fellow men, women, and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty, to make the right to development a reality for everyone, and to free the entire human race from want"[1].

2. It is also well known that eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were agreed upon by the world community: the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger (Goal 1); the achievement of universal primary education (Goal 2); the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (Goal 3); the reduction of child mortality (Goal 4); the improvement of maternal health (Goal 5); combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases (Goal 6); ensuring environmental sustainability (Goal 7); and, developing a global partnership for development (Goal 8).

3. For each goal the world community agreed on a number of quantitative indicators to measure the progress made towards achieving the goal in question. The original list of indicators has been revised and as of 15th January 2008 to include 60 indicators not all of which are relevant to each country[2]. The time period for achieving the goals is specified as 25 years with 1990 as the starting date. Thus, 2015 marks the final year of achieving the MDGs.

4. Though classified as a high income, and a high human development country, the State of Kuwait is committed to the achievement of the MDGs in view of the fact that it is also classified as a developing country.

5. As a developing country the State of Kuwait is expected to report on progress achieved in realizing the MDGs. Two such country reports have already been prepared by the then Ministry of Planning (MOP) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) country office in Kuwait: in 2003 the report carried the title "Kuwait: Country Report on the Millennium Development Goals: Achievements and Challenges 2003", while in 2005 the title of the report was the "State of Kuwait: The Millennium Development Goals Progress Report 2005".[3].

1- See UN (2002), Implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration: Report of the Secretary- General; report no. A/57/270; p. 8; www.un.org.

2- See the United Nations Development Group,UNDG, (2009), Addendum to 2nd Guidance Note on Country Reporting on the Millennium Development Goals; annex 1, Official List of MDG Indicators.

3- For brevity the 2003 report will sometimes be referred to as MOP-UNDP (2003), or alternatively as the MDG 2003 country report; similarly, the 2005 report will be referred to as MOP-UNDP (2005), or, alternatively as the MDG 2005 country report.

6. In both reports the standard UNDP (2003: 348-9) methodology for assessing progress towards achieving the MDGs was used[4]. Such a methodology requires comparing observed rates of change in the relevant quantitative indicators with the required rates of change to achieve the agreed upon value for the indicators. Moreover, for indicators with desired values of 100 percent the shortfall reduction method is recommended. Under this method the observed difference in the value of the indicator between the terminal year and the base year is divided by the difference between 100 and the base year value of the indicator and the result is divided by the time horizon involved between the base year and the terminal year[5].

7. Following the application of the above methodology, and given the availability of data at the time, the 2005 country report went a step further by classifying the status of achievement of the various MDGs. Given the multiplicity of indicators for each goal such classification of the status of achievement requires appropriate weights to be assigned for each indicator under a given goal. Such weighting convention has not been agreed upon in the relevant literature including that of the UNDG latest guidelines[6]. The 2005 country report used implicit weights and invited readers to assess them. This approach will also be used in this report to summarize the results of the analysis.

8. In addition to the standard methodology, the guidance note on the country reporting on MDGs the UNDG (2009: 7-9) proposed the inclusion, as appropriate, of sections on the "assessment of the impact of the global financial crisis of 2008" on "human development and MDG achievement", and, "the assessment of the impacts of climate change on the MDG progress".

9. The remainder of this report is organized in four sections as follows: section (II) deals with assessing the progress made in achieving the goals. The assessment is undertaken for each goal on its own using the recommended relevant indicators. Section (III) provides an overall summary assessment. Section (IV) is on the impact of the global financial crisis on the ability of the country to achieve the MDGs; while section (V) deals with the impact of climate change on progress towards achieving the MDGs.

4- UNDP, (2003), Human Development Report 2003; www.undp.org.

5- Not surprisingly this methodology is the same as that recommended in UNDG (2009), "Addendum to 2nd Guidance Note on Country Reporting on the Millennium Development Goals".

6- See also the annex to the World Bank and IMF (2010: 203-219), Global Monitoring Report 2009: A Development Emergency; www.worldbank.org. The annex is titled Monitoring the MDGs: Selected Indicators.

II. Progress in Achieving the Goals:

Goal 1: Eradication of Extreme Poverty and Hunger:

10. In the revised official list of the MDGs three targets under this goal are specified: (a) to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day[7]; (b) achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people; and (c) to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.

11. To reflect progress in achieving the target on absolute poverty, three quantitative indicators are used: the proportion of population below US$1 per day per person in purchasing power parity (i.e. the head-count ratio at the international poverty line)[8]; the poverty-gap ratio, and the share of the poorest twenty percent of the population in total consumption expenditure (i.e. the share of the poorest quintile).

12. It is perhaps obvious to note that absolute poverty, in the sense defined in (a) above, does not exist in Kuwait. Suffice it to note that according to the household income and expenditure survey of 2007-2008, the average consumption expenditure of the poorest Kuwaitis amounted to US$ 303 per person per month, or about US$ 10 per person per day (in 2005 PPP)[9]. This means that the average consumption expenditure of a Kuwaiti poor is about eight times higher than the international poverty line. This, in turn, confirms that the State of Kuwait has already eliminated extreme income poverty as measured by the head-count ratio and the poverty-gap ratio[10].

7- Originally the international poverty line was US$1.08 in purchasing power parity (PPP) in 1985 dollars. Currently, the international poverty line is revised to US$1.25 in 2005 PPP (see, for example, UN (2009), The Millennium Development Goals Report 2009; www.un.org).

8- As is well known the proportion of people living in extreme poverty is the head-count ratio, given a poverty line. The international poverty line when the MDGs were first formulated and agreed upon was US$1.08 per person per day in 1985 purchasing power parity; currently it is US$1.25 per person per day in 2005 PPP.

9- These are based on converting the household budget survey figures to 2005 purchasing power parity using the PWT version 6.3 (www.pwt.econ.upenn.edu).

10- From a technical point of view the head-count ratio, usually denoted by H, is defined as the number of poor people living below the specified poverty line, denoted by q, to the total population, denoted by n: thus $H = q/n$. The poverty-gap ratio, usually denoted by P, is defined as the percentage shortfall of the average income of the poor from the poverty line, usually denoted by z and is given by $P = H[(z-y)/z]$, where y is the average income of the poor. It is perhaps clear that if H is zero, as in the case of Kuwait, P is also zero.

13. To assess progress with respect to relative deprivation, as measured by the share of the poorest quintile in total consumption expenditure, Lorenz curves were fitted on the household budget survey data for 1999-2000 and 2007-2008[11]. The results show that the share of the lowest quintile in total consumption expenditure was 8.5 percent in 1999-2000 compared to 8.98 percent in 2007-2008. This indicates an improvement in the distribution of consumption expenditure over time, and consequently a decline in relative deprivation.

14. To reflect progress in achieving the target on full employment four quantitative indicators are recommended: growth rate of GDP per employed person; employment-to-population ratio; proportion of employed people living below one dollar a day; and, the proportion of own account and contributing family workers in total employment. We hasten to note that on the basis of the result on absolute poverty, it is perhaps obvious that the "proportion of employed people living below one dollar a day" is zero.

15. Regarding the indicator of the "growth rate of GDP per person employed" it is to be noted that in 1989, the year just before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait when the economy was in its normal state, GDP per worker in 2005 PPP is estimated as US$80473; it increased to US$82182 by 2007, thus recording a minuscule annual growth rate of only 0.11 percent[12]. However, just like the trend in overall GDP, there was a lot of fluctuation in this indicator over time.

16. Regarding the employment-to-population ratio, it needs to be recalled that Kuwait, like many Gulf oil producing countries, is a net labour importer, and a low unemployment country. As of 30th June 2009 the total population of the country is reported as 3.4 million persons: 1.1 million Kuwaiti nationals (representing 32% of the total). Total labour force is reported as 2.1 million persons: only 0.34 million Kuwaiti nationals (representing about 16.6% of the total). Of the total Kuwaiti labour force about 329 thousand were employed (about182 thousand males), implying that the employment-population ratio for the Kuwaiti nationals was 29.9% (33.6% for males and 26.3% for females). On the other hand, the ratio for the whole economy was 59.2% (71.4% for males and 39.3% for females). In addition, the available information confirms the low unemployment rate (unemployed/labour force) for the country as of 30th June 2009: 4.2% for Kuwaitis (3.5% for males and 4.9% for females; and 1.6% for the country as a whole (1% for males and 3.4% for females)[13].

17. Information regarding the indicator of the proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment is to be found in the recent report on the 2007/2008 household income and expenditure survey. According to this report 2.6 % of total Kuwaiti employed heads of households were own account workers. The overall ratio for the economy is about 6.3%[14].

11- For technical details on the procedure used to estimate Lorenz curves see MOP-UNDP (2003: 6, footnotes 9 and 10).
12- These estimates are taken from PWT 6.3 (www.pwt.econ.upenn.edu).
13- Planning and Future Forecasting Section, (2009), Major Features of Population and Labour Force as of 30th June 2009; General Secretariat of the Supreme Council of Planning and Development; Kuwait. Gender details show a male employment-population ratio of 33.6% and a female ratio of 26.3%.
14- For details see the Central Statistical Office, (CSO), (2009), Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2007/2008; table 4.4, pp. 85-90.

18. The third target under the first goal requires the halving, between 1990 and 2005, of the proportion of people who suffer from hunger. Two indicators are recommended for this target: the prevalence of underweight children under-five years of age; and, the proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption. We hasten to note that regarding the value of the indicator of underweight children it can safely be said that it was zero for a long period of time in view of the already noted high standard of living of the country and the advanced level of its health care system[15]. Regarding the dietary energy consumption indicator and given the above result on absolute poverty, and recalling that the most widely used method in calculating poverty lines involves using a minimum standard of dietary energy consumption, it is once again safe to argue that the proportion of people below a minimum level of dietary energy consumption has been zero for a long period of time.

19. On the basis of the above results it is perhaps obvious to argue that Kuwait does not suffer from extreme poverty or hunger. In this respect it can also be argued that, given the nature of the economy and society of the country, the first MDG on halving the incidence of absolute poverty as defined by the international poverty line, and hunger, does not seem to be relevant. The revision of the first goal to include achieving full and productive employment, however, would be relevant.

15- See also WHO (2010: 104-105, table 5), World Health Statistics 2010; www.who.int/whosis; pp. 104-105, table 5; where the entry of Kuwait does not report any value for the indicator in question!

Goal 2: Achieving Universal Primary Education:

20. The achievement of this goal requires that by 2015 children everywhere, boys and girls alike should be able to complete a full course of primary schooling. The three indicators chosen to gauge progress in achieving this goal are: the net enrolment ratio in primary education, the proportion of pupils starting grade one who reach last grade, and the literacy rate of those aged 15-24 years.

21. Noting that the desired 2015 level of each of these three indicators is 100 percent progress towards achieving each one can be judged by using the "shortfall reduction" method. In view of the fact that the initial values for the first two indicators are available for 1994, while that for the third indicator is for 1993, a time horizon of 21 years for the first two indicators and 22 years for the third indicator are used to calculate the required rate of shortfall reduction. Table (1) presents the relevant information and the results with respect to the progress made under each indicator.

Table (1): Indicators for the Primary Education Goal in Kuwait

Details	Net Enrolment Ratio in Primary Education	Proportion of Pupils Starting Grade 1 Who Reach Last Grade of Primary	Literacy Rate of 15-24Years of Age
Value at Base Year	87.4 (base year 1994)	94.8 (base year 1994)	98.4 (base year 1993)
Value at Terminal Year (2008)	88.5	96.4	99.97
Required Annual Rate of Change (%)	4.8	4.8	4.6
Observed Annual Rate of Change (%)	0.6	2.2	6.5
Status of Achievement	Represents a challenge	Can be achieved	achieved

22. As the table shows the net enrolment ratio in primary education was 87% in 1994, but it increased to 88.5% in 2008 recording an annual rate of modest increase of 0.6% whereas it is required to increase by an annual rate of 4.8 percent. If such a performance trend continues the above result means that it will be difficult for Kuwait to achieve the 100 percent net enrolment ratio in primary education by 2015. This is indeed a puzzling result.

23. The proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach the last grade was 94.8% in 1994 and increased to 96.4% in 2008. The actual rate of progress towards achieving this target, in the sense of shortfall reduction, is 1.5 percent per annum compared to a required rate of annual progress of 4.8 percent. Though such a divergence between the actual and the required rate of annual progress implies that the achievement of this indicator represents a challenge to the State of Kuwait, it needs to be noted that the already high level of achievement recorded suggests that the desired value of the indicator can be achieved.

24. The literacy rate of those aged 15-24 years was 98% in 1993; it increased to 99.97% in 2008. The actual rate of progress towards achieving this target, is 6.5 percent compared to a required rate of annual progress of 4.6 percent. The desired value of the indicator can be achieved.

Goal 3: Promoting Gender Equality and Empowering Women:

25. This goal requires the elimination of gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005, and in all levels of education by 2015. In the official revised list of the MDGs three indicators for the achievement of this goal have been identified: the ratio of girls to boys in the three levels of education; the share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector; and, the proportion of seats held by women in the national parliament.

26. Note that in accordance with the adopted UNDP methodology, the annual rate of progress for the gender equality indicators in education could have been based on the "shortfall reduction" formula in view of the fact that "the most desirable value is 100 percent", noting that two of them are supposed to be achieved by 2005 rather than by 2015. However, since the targets have already been achieved by 2004, the calculations involved are no longer applicable as table (2) shows.

Table (2): Gender Equality Indicators for Kuwait

Detail	Ratio of Girls to Boys in Primary Education	Ratio of Girls to Boys in Secondary Education	Ratio of Girls to Boys in Tertiary Education	Share of Women in Non-Agricultural Wage Employment
Value of Indicator in 1993	99.7	109.9	216.1	31.0
Value of Indicator in 2008	106.4	129.4	171.1	44.3
Required Annual Rate of Change (%)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	4.6
Observed Annual Rate of Change (%)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	4.7
Status of Achievement	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved	Can be Achieved

27. The information in the table on the ratio of girls to boys in the three conventional levels of education for the two years 1993 and 2008 confirms that Kuwait was able to achieve the goal of gender equality in education as required by the MDGs. Thus, judging gender equality by the relevant gender ratios in education, Kuwait was able to achieve the MDG on gender equality in education before the target year of 2015.

28. The share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector is an indicator

of the economic empowerment of women[16]. The above table shows that in 1993 this share was 31% increasing in a systematic fashion to reach 44.3% in 2008. On the assumption that the most desirable ratio is 0.5, and applying the "shortfall reduction" method it is calculated that the actual rate of progress is 4.7 percent per annum which is more than the required rate of progress of 4.6 percent per annum. Thus, if the economic empowerment of women is interpreted as requiring that the share of women in non-agricultural employment should increase over time to reach 50%, then it is reasonable to suggest that the goal of the economic empowerment of women can be achieved.

29. The proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments is an indicator of the political empowerment of women. As is well known Kuwait has been a democracy immediately after independence in 1961. It has a one chamber national parliament, the National Assembly (Majlis al Ommah), the members of which are periodically elected in free, open and fair elections according to the relevant laws and regulations for such electoral processes. Given legal, cultural and historical factors, and until May 2005, women were excluded from the political process. As such, therefore, the proportion of seats held by women in the Kuwait National Assembly has been zero since independence and up to 2009.

30. On the 16th of May 2005, the Kuwaiti Parliament (Majlis al Ommah) extended political rights to Kuwaiti women by amending the election laws. This historic achievement is now encoded in Law number 17 for the year 2005 which was signed on 4th June 2005.

16- We note the insignificant role of the agricultural sector in the economy of Kuwait. Thus, for example, in 2009 out of a total of 343585 Kuwaiti workers the sector employed only 279 representing a share of 0.08% of total Kuwaiti labour force!!

31. In the 2005 MDG country report it was cautioned that "this major achievement in the political empowerment of women" should not be expected to automatically guarantee an increased number of women in Majlis al Ommah in the immediate future. The caution was sounded on the basis of cultural factors, and political dynamics, that are involved in the determination of the results of competitive elections. As it happened, however, in the May 2009 general elections four women won seats in the Kuwaiti parliament marking a historic landmark in the political empowerment of women in the country[17]. Thus, by 2009, Kuwaiti women held 8% of the seats in the National Parliament. On the basis of this, and if political empowerment of women is interpreted as an increasing trend over time of the ratio of seats held by women in National Parliaments as a result of competitive elections (rather than on the ad hoc basis of pre-determined quotas) then it can be concluded that Kuwait is well on its way to achieve this indicator in a dynamic fashion.

17- According to KUNA website (www.kuna.net.kw) , dated 17 May 2009, his Highness the Emir, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah "expressed great pleasure with the advanced results achieved by Kuwaiti woman in these elections, and her membership in the National Assembly to join her brothers to serving the country for better development and prosperity".

Goal 4: Reducing Child Mortality:

32. The goal on child mortality requires the reduction of the under-five mortality rate by two thirds between 1990 and 2015. Three indicators are identified to gauge progress in achieving this goal: the under-five mortality rate (number of deaths of children under 5 years of age per thousand live births); the infant mortality rate (number of deaths of infants per thousand live births); and, the proportion of one year old children who are immunized against measles. We hasten to note that for the third indicator the shortfall reduction method will be used in view of the fact that the desired value of this indicator is 100% coverage. Table (3) provides the relevant information and the results. It should be noted that the information in the table is based on the World Health Organization, and we note that the 2008 figures reported in the table are not drastically different from those reported by official Kuwaiti sources[18].

Table (3): Child Mortality Indicators for Kuwait

Details	Under-five Mortality Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Proportion under one year old Immunized against Measles
Value of Indicator in 1993	12.9	11.2	(1994) 95.4
Value of Indicator in 2008	10	8.5	99
Required Annual Rate of Change (%)	-4.3	-4.3	4
Actual Annual Rate of Change (%)	-1.7	-1.8	5.6
Status of Achievement	Can be achieved	Can be achieved	Achieved

Source: WHO, (2010), World Health Statistics 2010; www.who.int.

18- World Health Organization, (2010), World Health Statistics 2010: Part 1: Health-related Millennium Development Goals; www.who.int/whosis.

33. As is clear from the table the under-five mortality rate was 12.9 per thousand live births in 1993 and declined to 10 per thousand in 2008 recording an annual rate of decline of 1.7 per cent. However, the required annual rate of decline of this indicator to achieve the MDG is 4.3 per cent. The divergence between the actual and the required rate of annual progress gives the impression that the achievement of this indicator may represent a challenge to the State of Kuwait. However, it needs to be noted that the already high level of achievement recorded suggests that the desired value of the indicator can be fully achieved.

34. The infant mortality rate is reported as 11.2 per thousand live births in 1993. By 2008 the rate declined to 8.5 per thousand, thus recording an annual rate of decline of 1.8 per cent compared to a required rate of decline of 4.3 percent. Though such a divergence between the actual and the required rate of annual progress implies that the achievement of this indicator may represent a challenge to the State of Kuwait, it needs to be noted that the already high level of achievement recorded suggests that the desired value of the indicator can be fully achieved.

35. The proportion of one year old children immunized against measles is reported as 95.4% in 1994 and 99% in 2008, thus recording an annual rate of progress of reduction in the shortfall of 5.6 percent. The required annual rate of progress is 4 percent which implies that the target of complete immunization coverage has already been achieved ahead of the time horizon of 2015.

Goal 5: Improving Maternal Health:

36. In the revised official list of the MDGs two targets are specified for this goal: (a) the reduction of the maternal mortality ratio by three quarters between 1990 and 2015; and, (b) achieving, by 2015, universal access to reproductive health services.

37. Two indicators are specified for measuring progress in achieving the first target: the maternal mortality ratio (i.e. the annual number of deaths of women from pregnancy-related causes per 100 thousand live births), and the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel.

38. According to the standard methodology it should be noted that the reduction of the maternal mortality rate by three quarters by 2015 from its initial value in 1990 requires an annual rate of reduction of about 5.4 per cent. For Kuwait the maternal mortality rate for 1995 as a base year was 7.6 women per thousand live births; it declined to 3.5 women per thousand live births by 2003 and to 3.1 by 2008. Thus, over the period 1995-2003 the recorded annual rate of decline was 6.7 percent, which is greater than the required rate of decline, implying that the target maternal mortality rate for Kuwait for 2015 is expected to be 2.7 women per thousand live births[19]. Over the period 2003-2008 the actual annual rate of decline of this indicator is calculated as about 26 per cent implying that the country has already achieved this goal[20].

39. As noted in the 2005 MDG country report, and confirmed by the 2010 WHO World Health Statistics report, all births in the State of Kuwait have been attended by skilled health personnel since 1993.

40. Regarding the achievement of the target on reproductive health four quantitative indicators are specified: contraceptive prevalence rate; adolescent birth rate; antenatal care coverage; and, unmet need for family planning. According to the WHO 2010 statistical report there is no information on any of these indicators for Kuwait. Lack of information on these indicators has to do with their irrelevance to a highly conservative culture in which practices to be measured by the indicators are not observed in a routine fashion. However, given the standard of the living of the country, as well as the highly advanced stage of its health care system, it can easily be inferred that the country can achieve the target of universal access to reproductive health care by 2015.

19- Note that this is arrived at by using the actual annual rate of decline of 6.7 percent to obtain a 1990 maternal mortality rate of about 10.7, a reduction of which by three quarters implies that the target value of the indicator by 2015 is about 2.7.

20- Using the recent annual rate of decline of 26 percent, and the implied linear growth trends, it can easily be calculated that by 2009 maternal mortality rate was 2.3 percent confirming the above conclusion.

Goal 6: Combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases:

41. Under the revised official MDGs list three targets are identified under this goal: (a) halting, and the eventual reversal, of the spread of HIV/AIDS by 2015; (b) achieving, by 2010, universal access to treatment of HIV/AIDS for all those who need it; and, (c) the halting, and eventual reversal, of the incidence of malaria and other diseases by 2015.

42. Four indicators are chosen for measuring progress in achieving the first target on the spread of HIV/AIDS: the HIV prevalence rate among population aged 15-24 years; condom use at last high risk sex; the proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS; and, the ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 years. Except for the first indicator no information is readily available for the remaining three indicators is deemed irrelevant for Kuwait.

43. Regarding the first indicator of the first target (i.e. the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate among 15-24 population) it is worth noting that, according to a recent UNGASS country progress report, the first HIV/AIDS case was diagnosed in 1984. In 2009 there were 160 HIV/AIDS cases among the Kuwaiti population (119 males, and 41 females)[21]. Only three cases are reported for under 15-year individuals, leaving 157 cases for those over 15 years. Of these 24 cases are below 29 years of age: 15 males and 9 females. The total Kuwaiti population 15 years and older in 2009 is reported as about 675 thousand while that in the age range 15-29 years is reported as about 307 thousand individuals: about 154 thousand males and about 153 thousand females[22]. This means that the HIV/AIDS prevalence rate among the population 15-years and older is about 0.02% for the whole population. The prevalence rate among the population category 15-29 is virtually zero: 0.008% for the total Kuwaiti population; 0.01% for males and 0.006% for females[23].

21- UNGASS stands for the United Nations General Assembly Special Session; it was the 26th special session held during the period 25-27 June 2001. It issued a "declaration of commitment on HIV/AIDS" which required countries to report on progress made on the commitments. See UNGASS Country Progress Report 2010: State of Kuwait Narrative Report January 2008-December 2009; authored by Dr. Hind Al-Shoumer; unpublished draft.

22- For population details see Planning and Future Forecasting Section, (2009), Major Features of Population and Labour Force as of 30th June 2009; General Secretariat of the Supreme Council of Planning and Development; Kuwait; page 48, table 13.1. For the age distribution of HIV/AIDS cases in Kuwait see UNGASS Country Progress Report 2010: State of Kuwait Narrative Report January 2008-December 2009; p. 14 tables (2) and (3).

23- Such zero prevalence explains the fact that the epidemiological fact sheet for Kuwait in the WHO website did not reveal any information on Kuwait when accessed in June 2010.

44. For the second target only one indicator is identified: the proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs. According to the UNGASS country progress report, referred to above, of the current 160 people living with HIV 131 are receiving antiretroviral treatment: 101 males and 30 females. Three of these are under 15 years of age (2 males and one female); of the remaining 128 individuals above 15 years of age 99 are males. Thus, the proportion of Kuwaiti population with HIV infection with access to antiretroviral treatment is about 82% in 2009[24].

45. For progress in achieving the third target five indicators are chosen: incidence and death rate associated with malaria; proportion of children under five years sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets; proportion of children under five years with fever who are treated with appropriate anti-malaria drugs; tuberculosis (TB) incidence (defined as the number of new and relapse cases of TB occurring in a year per hundred thousand of the population), prevalence (defined as the number of TB cases at a given point in time per hundred thousand), and death rates (defined as the number of deaths caused by TB excluding deaths in HIV-positive cases per hundred thousand)[25]; and, the proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly observed treatment short course (DOTS). Irrespective of the multiplicity of indicators under this target, it is to be noted that the State of Kuwait is a malaria-free country and as such the three quantitative malaria indicators are not applicable.

24- See UNGASS Country Progress Report 2010: State of Kuwait Narrative Report January 2008-December 2009; p. 17 tables (5) and (6).

25- For these definitions see the World Health Organization, (2009), Global Tuberculosis Control: a Short Update to the 2009 Report; www.who.int; annex, p. 32.

46. Regarding the indicators on tuberculosis (TB) it should be noted that Kuwait is a low incidence country (i.e. with less than 40 cases per hundred thousand of the population). According to the WHO (2009) report on global tuberculosis control the overall TB incidence rate was about 17 cases per 100 thousand in 1990, dipped to about 13 cases per 100 thousand in 1994, and then recorded an increasing trend up to 1998 where it reached about 33 cases per hundred thousand. Another period of decline is recorded up to 2005 where incidence is estimated as 23 cases per 100 thousand. Over the period up to 2008 incidence increased to reach about 34 cases per hundred thousand. A similar time trend is recorded for the TB prevalence rate, albeit with a lot of fluctuation compared to the incidence rate, which increased from less than 10 cases per hundred thousand in 1990 to an estimated 29 cases per hundred thousand in 2008[26].

47. The TB death rate indicator is reported to have increased from less than 0.5 per hundred thousand in 1990 to about 2 per hundred thousand in 1999 before declining to about 0.6 in 2000. From there on the value of the indicator increased in a sustained fashion to about 2.2 per hundred thousand in 2008. On the other hand the treatment success rate indicator is reported to have increased from about 52 percent in 1994 to about 73 percent in 1996 before declining to about 67 percent in 1999 and further to 55 percent in 2002. The period 2002-2008 saw a sustained increase toward reaching the treatment success rate of about 80 percent in 2008. The almost zero prevalence of HIV/AIDS for the whole population and submission of the first UNGASS report in 2010 for Kuwait is an indicator of the country's commitment towards combating HIV/AIDS. And as Kuwait is a malaria free country, The State of Kuwait should be able to combat, control and reverse HIV/AIDS and TB by 2015.

26- For details see the above noted WHO (2009) report and the detailed country graphs.

Goal 7: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability:

48. Under the revised official MDGs list four targets are specified under this goal: (a) the integration of the principles of sustainable development into country programmes and policies and the reversal of the loss of environmental resources; (b) the reduction of biodiversity loss, and achieving by 2010 a significant reduction in the rate of loss; (c). the halving, by 2015, of the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation; and, (d) the achievement of a significant improvement in the lives of at least hundred million slum dwellers by the year 2020. We hasten to note that the fourth target is a global one and is not meant to apply to each country, especially those countries in which slum dwelling is not known to exist as a social phenomenon as in the case of Kuwait.

49. For the first two targets a combined list of seven quantitative indicators are identified to measure progress towards achievement. These are: the proportion of land covered by forest; carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions (total, per capita and per \$ GDP in purchasing power parity); consumption of ozone-depleting substances; proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits; proportion of total water resources used; proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected; and proportion of species threatened with extinction. The first indicator is clearly not relevant to the State of Kuwait: according to international classification the proportion of land covered by forests is zero. Similarly, the seventh indicator does not seem to be relevant either.

50. No reliable information is readily available for the new indicators on consumption of ozone-depleting substances; proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits; proportion of total water resources used; and, the proportion of terrestrial and marine areas protected. Thus, the assessment of the first target can be undertaken on the basis of the carbon dioxide emissions indicator with its three sub-indicators.

51. For these three sub-indicators table (4) provides the relevant information and the results. The information used in the table is based on the World Bank's (2010) World Development Report (WDR) on Development and Climate Change. The WDR provides estimates for 1990 as a base year and 2005 as a terminal year. As will be clear from the titles of the columns in the table total CO_2 emissions are measured in millions of metric tons; per capita emissions are measured in metric tons; and, the carbon intensity is measured in metric tons of emissions per thousand dollars of GDP in purchasing power parity.

Table (4): Indicators of Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) Emissions for Kuwait

Details	Annual Total CO_2 Emissions (Million Metric Tons)	Per Capita CO_2 Emissions (Metric Tons)	Metric Tons of CO_2 per Thousand Dollars of GDP
Value of Indicator in 1990	27	12.7	0.42
Value of Indicator in 2005	76	30.1	0.79
Required Rate of Change	Reduction	Reduction	Reduction
Actual Annual Rate of Change (%)	7.1	5.9	4.3
Status of Achievement	Represents a Challenge	Represents a Challenge	Represents a Challenge

Source: based on the World Bank (2010), World Development Report 2010, and PWT version 6.3.

52. Noting that an environmental sustainability perspective requires all three sub-indicators to decline over time, the table clearly shows that all sub-indicators have increased. Thus, the achievement of the first two targets under the environmental sustainability goal, as judged by the three sub-indicators of the carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions, represents a challenge to the State of Kuwait. Such a result confirms the one arrived at by the 2005 Kuwait MDGs country report despite the change in the indicators and the way they are measured.

53. The third target under this goal requires the halving, by 2015, of the proportion of population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation. Two quantitative indicators are recommended to gauge progress on this target: the proportion of population using an improved drinking water source; and, the proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility. Perhaps not surprisingly, both indicators have reached 100% coverage for a long period of time in Kuwait. This is not surprising not only in view of the high income status of the country, but also given the highly urbanized nature of the Kuwaiti society[27].

54. On the basis of the above, if the MDG on ensuring environmental sustainability is judged by carbon dioxide emissions, then, clearly, its achievement would represent a challenge for the State of Kuwait.

27- See MOP-UNDP (2005:15) for details on the proportion of Kuwaiti families living in premises with improved sanitation (i.e. 97%), and those having secure tenure (i.e. 99.7%).

Goal 8: Developing a Global Partnership for Development:

55. Under the revised official MDGs list seven targets are specified under this goal. A total of sixteen indicators are suggested to be monitored separately for the least developed countries, Africa, landlocked developing countries and small islands developing countries. In view of the fact that the State of Kuwait does not belong to any of these country groupings it seems obvious to suggest that reporting on any of the targets and indicators is not relevant.

56. Despite the above, and as argued by the 2005 MDGs country report, from the perspective of Kuwait the most relevant indicator under this goal is the commitment to help developing countries in their attempts to achieve the MDGs by providing them with official development assistance (ODA). Such an interpretation is predicated on the UN (2005: 36) observation that at the heart of the MDGs "is the understanding that fighting poverty is a collective undertaking and that all countries have a stake in the results. Primary responsibility to achieve the goals rests with developing countries, but international support is critical, especially for the poorest countries and for countries handicapped by geographical isolation".

57. Further, in his foreword to the MDGs report of 2009 the UN Secretary General reiterated the critical importance of official development aid in achieving the MDGs in the context of the recent global financial crisis by noting that if "the global community responds constructively to the crisis, the goals can still be achieved. Honoring the commitment to increase aid is critical"[28]. In this respect it is important to note that the ODA commitments referred to above pertain to those made by advanced donor countries in the Monterrey Consensus of 2002 requiring them to provide 0.7% of their gross national product for developing countries in official development assistance (ODA)[29].

28- UN (2009), The Millennium Development Goals Report 2009; p. 3; www.un.org.

29- The Monterrey Consensus was a result of a UN international conference on «Financing for Development», held in Monterrey, Mexico, during the period 18-22 March 2002. A follow-up international conference on the same topic to review the implantation of the Monterrey Consensus was held in Doha, Qatar, during the period 29 November- 2 December 2008.

58. Despite not being an advanced country, Kuwait has been an active, and rather generous, donor. It established a specialized development finance agency on 31st December 1961, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED). From 1974 onwards KFAED extended its operations to other developing countries. As of 31st March 2009 KFAED's authorized and paid-up capital amounted to US$6.8 billion, facilitating a loan portfolio of US$14.2 billion benefiting 101 countries[30].

59. As noted in the 2005 MDG country report, and according to available information, Kuwait's ODA/GNP ratio fluctuated widely over the period since 1990. It achieved its highest value of 5% in 1990 but declined in a systematic fashion to 0.2% in 2003. The overall average of Kuwaiti ODA over the period 1990-2003 is 1.31% of GNP with a standard deviation of 1.22 percentage points. In 2008 the ODA/GNP ratio is reported as 0.35% on disbursement basis[31]. Thus, despite this declining trend, Kuwait's participation in the process of creating a global partnership for development as a donor is an active and significant one.

30- In addition to loans a total of US$2.1 billion is provided in the form of KFAED›s grants, government grants, technical assistance and paid contributions in development finance institutions. For details see KFAED, (2009), 47th Annual Report: 2008-2009; www.kuwait-fund.org.

31- See the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development et al, (2009), The Consolidated Arab Economic Report 2009, Kuwait. According to this report (annex tables 2.5, page 269 and 11.1, page 377) Kuwait›s GNP in 2008 amounted to US$152 billion while disbursed ODA amounted to US$568 million.

III. Assessment of Achievements: A Summary:

60. A careful reading of the analysis in section (II) above will show that the State of Kuwait is poised to achieve almost all of the MDGs by the year 2015.

61. Following the methodological observation made in the 2005 MDGs country report it should be noted that an overall assessment of the status of achievement of each goal is made difficult by the multiplicity of targets under a number of them (e.g. goals 1 and 5) and the multiplicity of indicators under each target. Thus an overall assessment would require attaching appropriate weights to targets under each goal, and to indicators under each target. In the absence of an agreed upon method of arriving at such weights only qualitative judgments can be invoked to assess the overall status of achievement.

62. Table (5) provides a summary of the results reported in section (II). The table is presented in such a way that it informs the reader about the original number of indicators under each goal, the revised number of indicators as of January 2008, the number of indicators that are not applicable to Kuwait, and the number of indicators actually used to conduct the analysis. In addition, the table shows the status of achievement of each goal on the basis of a qualitative judgment as to the implicit weights that can be assigned to the various indicators.

Table (5): The Status of Achievement of the MDGs in Kuwait: A Summary

MDG	Original # of Indicators	Revised # of Indicators	# of Indicators not	# of Indicators Used	# of Indicators Achieved	# of Indicators that can be Achieved	# of Challenge Indicators	Status of Achievement
Eradication of Poverty and Hunger	5	9	0	9	9	-	0	Achieved
Achieving Universal Primary Education	3	3	0	3	0	2	1	Can be achieved
Promoting Gender Equality and	4	4	0	4	1	3	0	Can be Achieved
Reducing Child Mortality	3	3	0	3	1	2	0	Achieved
Improving Maternal Health	2	6	0	6	2	4	0	Can be Achieved
Combating HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases	7	10	4	6	1	5	0	Can be Achieved
Ensuring	8	10	7	3	2	0	1	Represents a Challenge
Developing a Global Partnership for	17	16	15	1	1	-	0	Achieved

63. On the basis of the implicit qualitative weights for the various indicators the table shows that three goals have already been achieved (goals 1, 4, and 8), four goals can be achieved (goals 2, 3, 5 and 6), while one goal represents a challenge (goal 7). We hasten to note that the judgment regarding Goal 3 on promoting gender equality and empowerment of women gives a higher weight to the achievement of the goal in the various levels of education, but is aware of the fact that the eventual achievement of the country in this respect is highly sensitive to the dynamics of the political process

in the given cultural context of Kuwait. Moreover, it should be noted that the judgment on the goals that can be achieved is based on the obvious observation about the capability of the state in allocating the required resources for acquiring the advanced medical technology involved.

64.   Achieving goal 2 about universal primary education represents a puzzling challenge. The modest increase the results show leads to the conclusion that change to reach 100% will be slow on the long run.

65. The goal representing a challenge is that of dealing with environmental sustainability. The relevant sub-indicators which represent a challenge are those on carbon dioxide emissions. As is probably obvious this aspect is directly related to the production structure of the country as an oil producer. As such it will continue to represent a challenge. The time trend established on the three sub-indicators is likely to persist in the future if oil production, and oil prices, increase over time. As noted before, the only consolation in this respect is to note that the share of Kuwait in total world emissions is a minuscule 0.29% in 2005.

IV. The Impact of the Global Crisis:

66. In the recent UNDG (2009) guidance note on the assessment of the impact of the global financial crisis on the achievement of the MDGs, six dimensions, not all of which are relevant to all countries, are suggested: channels of transmission; immediate and long-term impacts to national and sub-national economies and population groups; response capacity; country-specific exacerbation factors; developing country-specific indicators for assessing impact and vulnerability; and, estimating the expected impact on MDGs.

67. Without getting involved in technical details, we should note that there is general agreement in the specialized literature that there exists four major channels of transmission of the global financial crisis: the growth channel (i.e. GDP growth rates); the rate of exchange channel; the capital markets channel; and, the credit channel. From an MDG perspective it is the GDP growth channel that is deemed of direct relevance (noting, of course, that the other channels can translate themselves, directly or indirectly, into the growth of GDP). The literature also agrees that in the case of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, including Kuwait, the major impact of the crisis was felt through the financial sector[32].

68. From a "human development and MDG achievement" perspective six indicators are identified to assess the impact of the global financial crisis: real GDP growth (for the obvious reason that it captures a broad concept of the welfare of the population, especially after taking population growth into account); the real oil and non-oil GDP growth rates; the inflation rate (for the obvious reason of its short-run implication for consumption expenditure by the household sector); the fiscal balance as a ratio of GDP (for the obvious reason that it reflects the ability of the government to respond to crisis by implementing a fiscal stimulus package without necessarily jeopardizing the stability of the economy); and, the current account balance as a ratio of GDP (once again to reflect the ability of the government to respond to a crisis).

69. To assess the impact of the global financial crisis on Kuwait three periods are looked at: the pre-crisis period 2005-2007; the crisis period 2008-2009; and the recovery period 2010-2011. Information on the identified indicators is available in the IMF (2010) "Regional Economic Outlook: Middle East and Central Asia". Table (6) provides the relevant information on the average of the indicators for each sub-period.

32- For details on GCC see, for example, M. Khamis et al, (2010), «Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries and Challenges Ahead»; www.imf.org.

Table (6): Indicators of the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Kuwait

Indicator	Pre-Crisis Period 2005-2007	Crisis Years 2008-2009	Projected Recovery Period 2010-2011
Annual Real GDP Growth Rate (%)	5.1	1.9	4.0
Annual Read Oil GDP Growth Rate (%)	5.6	-1.7	3.5
Annual Real Non-oil GDP Growth Rate (%)	8.2	4.4	4.3
Inflation Rate (%)	3.4	7.6	4.3
Fiscal Balance/GDP (%)	34.2	27.0	22.5
Current Account Balance/ GDP (%)	40.8	33.3	32.1

Source: Compiled from the IMF (2010: 48, 50, 52, and 54); www.imf.org.

70. Being an oil producing and exporting country it is well known that growth in Kuwait's GDP is highly sensitive to the nominal price of oil and is characterized, as a result, by a lot of volatility. One immediate effect of the global financial crisis was a decline in oil prices from about US$147 per barrel in July 2008 to US$34 at the end of the same year. As a result of this real GDP growth declined from an average annual rate of 5.1 percent in the pre-crisis years 2005-2007 to only 1.9 percent as an average for the two years of the crisis. Despite this 3.2 percentage points decline, however, the Kuwaiti economy did not descend into a recession (meaning negative growth rate of real GDP) except for 2009 where a negative growth rate of 2.7 percent is recorded.

71. As is expected the table shows that it was growth in the oil sector which was negatively impacted by the crisis. During the pre-crisis period the oil sector posted an average annual growth rate of 5.6 percent. This rather respectable growth rate declined to a negative annual growth rate of 1.7 percent during the crisis years. Thus, the impact of the crisis showed itself as a loss of 7.3 percentage points in the growth rate of the economy. However, recalling the volatility of growth in oil economies it should be reported that in fact 2008 saw a positive growth rate of 4.2 percent while 2009 registered a negative growth rate of 7.5 percent reflecting the persistent decline in the price of oil during the crisis. Non-oil real GDP saw its growth rate decline from an average of 8.2 percent in the pre-crisis years to 4.4 percent during the crisis years, thus sustaining a loss of 3.8 percentage points.

72. With the recovery of oil prices, which started towards the end of 2009, the table shows that the negative impact of the global financial crisis was a short-run affair. Positive growth, albeit at rates lower than the ones reported for the pre-crisis years, is projected for the post crisis period: an average annual growth rate of 4.4 percent for overall GDP; 3.5 percent for oil GDP and 4.3 percent for non-oil GDP.

73. Regarding the inflation rate it should be noted that Kuwait was historically a low inflation economy with a one digit inflation rate usually of less than 5 percent per annum. This is indeed confirmed by the pre-crisis average inflation rate of 3.4 percent. The impact of the global financial crisis was to increase the inflation rate to an average of 7.6 percent during the crisis years. The initial negative impact of the crisis on consumer price inflation was felt during 2008 which saw the inflation rate jump to two digits inflation of about 11 percent. This was presumably a reflection of the surge in commodity prices on a world scale in 2007 just before the eruption of the financial crisis, especially the massive increase in food prices. Once again the negative impact of the financial crisis on the welfare of the population as reflected in the increase of the consumer price inflation rate seems to be a short-run affair. With the stabilization in the world economy, and the nascent recovery of major economies, the inflation rate is expected to decline to more familiar levels of 4.5 percent in 2010 and to 4 percent in 2011.

74. The remaining two indicators, which strictly speaking should be mirror images of each other, may give the impression that the financial crisis undermined the potential ability of the government to deal with future emergencies. Such an impression could be based on the observed decline of the two indicators from their pre-crisis levels: from 34.2% to 27% for the fiscal surplus/GDP indicator and from 40.8% to 33.3% for the current account balance/ GDP ratios indicator. But such an impression is misleading in view of the fact that the levels to which both have been reduced, from fairly high levels, remain relatively high by all standards. The potential ability of the government to deal with massive external shocks remains robust, as the table shows for the recovery period..

V. The Impacts of Climate Change on the MDG Progress:

75. In the recent UNDG (2009) guidance note on the assessment of the impacts of climate change on the MDG progress four dimensions, not all of which are relevant to all countries, are suggested: channels of transmission; in the case of more extreme weather events, the determination of the immediate impacts on the national economy and MDGs; in the case of long-term changes in temperature, precipitation and sea levels, the determination of the likely short-term and long-term impacts of likely biophysical changes; and, the determination of the climate change adaptation options required and their current status.

76. The issue of the impact of climate change on Arab countries has recently been extensively analyzed by the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED)[33]. It is noted that the most significant aspects of climate change include increased average temperatures, erratic precipitation, and sea level rise. Six areas of Arab vulnerability to climate change are identified: dwindling water resources; sea level rise; adverse impact on human health; adverse impact on food production; adverse impact on tourism; and, adverse impact on biodiversity. As usual not all these aspects are relevant, from an MDG perspective, to each one of the Arab countries.

77. The most important quantitative results for Kuwait deal with the vulnerability of the country as a coastal area to sea level rise. The envisaged impact could be in the form of coastal region inundation and increasing salinity of soil. According to model projections it is reported that a rise in sea level of one meter is expected to affect about 1% of the total area of the country, while a rise of 5 meters is expected to impact about 3% of the area. Moreover, a rise in sea level of one meter is expected to impact about 1% of GDP, while a rise of five meters is expected to impact about 3.8% of GDP.

78. Despite the importance of taking adaptive action to meet potential threats from climate change by all countries around the world, it seems reasonable to suggest that as far as the achievements of MDGs in Kuwait are concerned, such threats are very long-run ones[34].

33- The report is edited by Tolba, M., and N. W. Saab, (2009), Arab Environment: Climate Change: Impact of Climate Change on Arab Countries; www.afedonline.org. The results of the report were recently (27th May 2010) presented in Kuwait under the patronage of Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and the President of the Supreme Council for Environment.

34- See Susmita Dasgupta et al, (2007), «The Impact of Sea Level Rise on Developing Countries: A Comparative Analysis»; WPS 4130, www.worlbank.org. The results of this are the ones summarized in AFED (2009).

Annex Table (A.1): Revised Millennium Development Goals Indicators for Kuwait

Indicator	Base Year	Terminal Year	Source
1. Proportion of population below $1 per person per day (%)	0	0	Household Income and Expenditure Surveys 1999/2000 and 2007/2008. Central Statistical Office.
2. Poverty-gap ratio (%)	0	0	Household Income and Expenditure Surveys 1999/2000 and 2007/2008. Central Statistical Office.
3. Share of poorest quintile in national consumption (%)	8.5	9.0	Household Income and Expenditure Surveys 1999/2000 and 2007/2008. Central Statistical Office.
4. GDP per person employed ($ in 2005 PPP)	80473	82182	Penn World Table 6.3; www.pwt.econ.upenn.edu.
5. Employment-to-population ratio (%)		31.2	General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development, Planning and Future Projections Sector, Department of Human Development. Hereinafter DHP-PFPS.
6. Proportion of employed people living below $1 per day (%)	0	0	By implication of indicator 1 above.
7. Proportion of own-account workers in total employment (%)	0	0	Household Income and Expenditure Surveys 1999/2000 and 2007/2008. Central Statistical Office.
8. Prevalence of underweight children (%)	-	-	Not readily available.
9. Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption (%)	0	0	By implication of indicator 1 above.
10. Net enrolment ratio in primary education (%)	87.4	88.5	DHP-PFPS.
11. Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach last grade of primary (%)	94.8	96.4	DHP-PFPS.
12. Literacy rate of 15-24 year olds, (males and females) (%)	98.4	99.97	DHP-PFPS
13. Ratio of girls to boys in primary education (%)	99.7	106.4	DHP-PFPS
14. Ratio of girls to boys in secondary education (%)	109.9	129.7	DHP-PFPS

15. Ratio of girls to boys in tertiary education (%)	216.1	171.3	DHP-PFPS
16. Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector (%)	31	44.3	DHP-PFPS
17. Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (%)	0	8	DHP-PFPS
18. Under-five mortality rate (per 1000 live births)	12.9	10	WHO, (2010), World Health Statistics 2010; www.who.int/whosis.
19. Infant mortality rate (per 1000 live births)	11.2	8.5	WHO, (2010), World Health Statistics 2010; www.who.int/whosis.
20. Proportion under one year old immunized against measles (%)	95.4	99	WHO, (2010), World Health Statistics 2010; www.who.int/whosis.
21. Maternal mortality rate (per 100 thousand live births)	3.5	3.1	DHP-PFPS
22. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	100	100	DHP-PFPS
23. Contraceptive prevalence rate (%)	---	----	Not readily available.
24. Adolescent birth rate (%)	----	----	Not readily available. .
25. Antenatal care coverage	----	----	Not readily available.
26. Unmet need for family planning	----	-----	Not readily available.
27. HIV prevalence among population aged 15-24 years (%)	----	----	Not readily available.
28. Condom use at last high-risk sex	-----	----	Not readily available. See UNGASS Country Progress Report 2010: The State of Kuwait Narrative Report; unpublished draft; p. 11.
29. Proportion of population 15-24 with comprehensive knowledge of HIV/AIDS (%)	----	---	Not readily available. See UNGASS Country Progress Report 2010: The State of Kuwait Narrative Report; unpublished draft; p. 10.
30. Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 (%)	----	----	Not Relevant. See UNGASS Country Progress Report 2010: The State of Kuwait Narrative Report; unpublished draft; p. 9-10.
31. Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs (%)	----	81.9	UNGASS Country Progress Report 2010: The State of Kuwait Narrative Report; unpublished draft; p.17; tables (5) and (6).

32. Incidence and death rates associated with malaria (%)	-----	----	Not relevant.
33. Proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets (%)	----	---	Not relevant.
34. Proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs (%)	----	----	Not relevant.

35. Tuberculosis:
   (a) Incidence (per 100000)
   (b)   Prevalence   (per 100000)
   (c) Death rate (per 100000)
	17
	9.5
	0.46
		34
		30
		2.4
			WHO (2009), Global tuberculosis Control: a Short Update to the 2009 Report; www.who.int.

36. Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and treated under a DOT short course (%)	52	80	WHO (2009) as in indicator 35..
37. Proportion of land area covered by forests (%)	0	0	World Bank, (2010), World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change; table A.1.
38. Total CO_2 emissions per capita (million metric tons)	27 (1990)	76 (2005)	World Bank, (2010), World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change; table A.1.
39. Per capita CO_2 emissions (metric tons)	12.7 (1990)	30.1 (2005)	World Bank, (2010), World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change; table A.1.
40. CO_2 emissions per \$1 of GDP in PPP (metric tons per thousand \$ of GDP)	0.42 (1990)	0.79 (2005)	World Bank, (2010), World Development Report 2010: Development and Climate Change; table A.1.
41. Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source (%)	100	100 (2009)	By implication of goal 1 above.
42. Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility (%)	100	100 (2009)	By implication of goal 1 above.
43. ODA/GNP ratio (%)	1.2 (average 1990-2003)	0.35 (2008)	Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development et al (2009) , Consolidated Arab Economic Report 2009; Kuwait and DHP-PFPS.