Human Rights Based Approach to Strategy Development and Review

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Executive Summary

Human Rights Based Approach to Strategy Development and Review

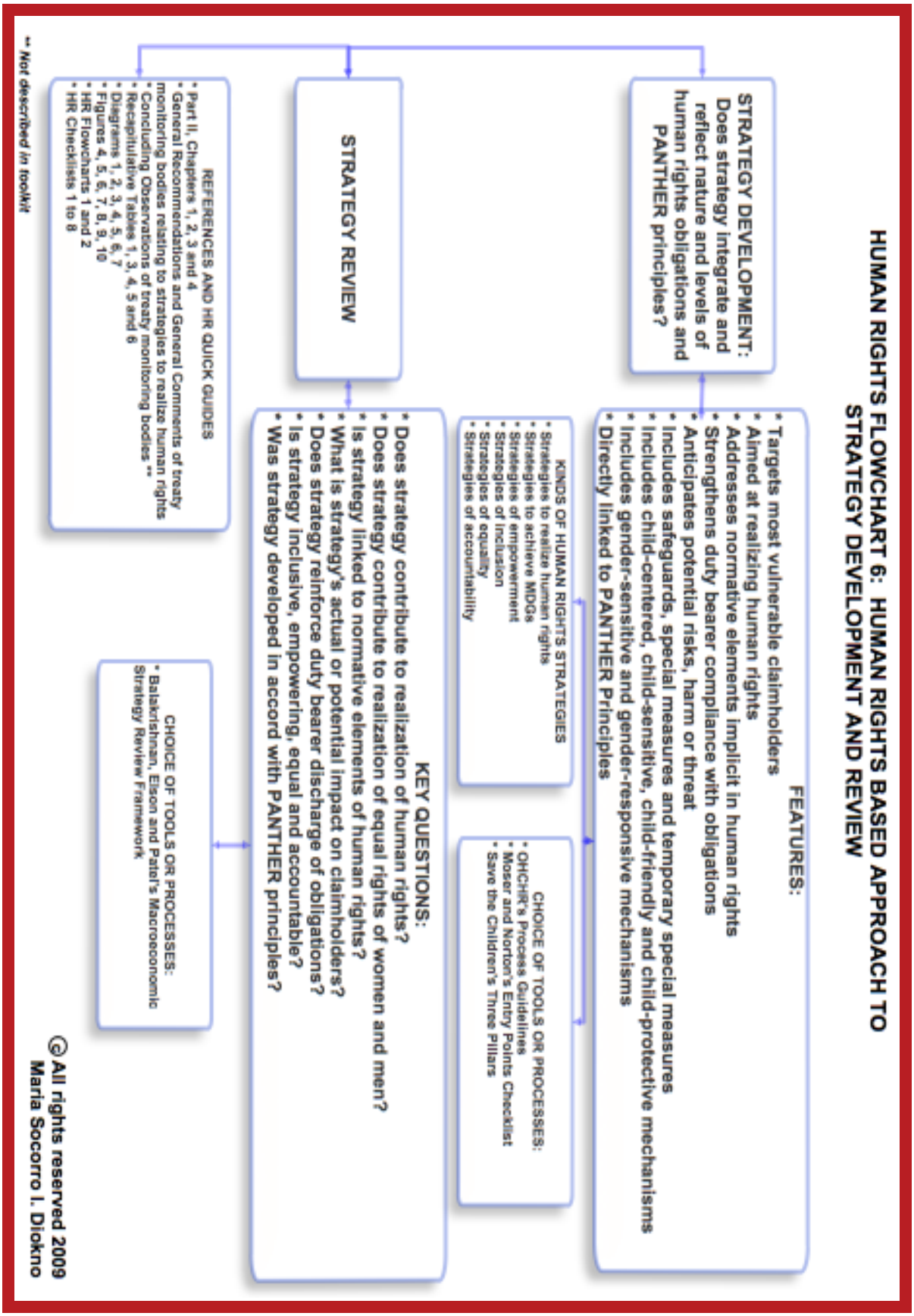
The indivisibility and interdependence of human rights demand complementary and integrated development strategies to realize human rights, by addressing claimholder entitlements to goods, services, resources and institutions and supporting duty bearer performance of human rights obligations.

Human rights based development strategies are strategies of inclusion, equality and empowerment, accompanied by express safeguards against exclusion and discrimination and clear and accessible mechanisms for redress and accountability (*see* Part II, Chapter 4).

Human rights strategies of inclusion target those who usually experience grave difficulties in enjoying their human rights and those who are most at risk of human rights deprivations: persons living in poverty, women, children, indigenous people, the elderly, persons with HIV/AIDS, and persons with disabilities. Strategies of inclusion generally incorporate special measures to ensure the equal enjoyment of human rights by all, which must be carefully designed with the active participation of claimholders who are the subject of the special measures.

Human rights strategies of equality address inherent disadvantages women face in enjoying their human rights, as well as cultural and traditional practices, religion, custom, prejudices, stereotyping and socialization that hamper women's equal enjoyment of human rights. Strategies of equality incorporate temporary special measures (e.g., positive action, preferential treatment, quota systems, etc.) to eliminate discrimination against women and facilitate women's enjoyment of human rights and integration into all facets of society (e.g., education, economy, politics, employment, etc.).

Human rights strategies of empowerment strengthen the *power to, power from within,* and *power with* dimensions of power while at the same time weaken the *power over* dimension. Strategies of empowerment address both power relations, whether these are covert, overt, visible and hidden, and power control, however this is manifested. Strategies of empowerment may apply either or both the agency or structural approaches to empowerment and may include any or a combination of: economic empowerment measures, which enable claimholders to enjoy, on a secure and sustainable basis, the economic and financial resources for a quality of life consistent with human dignity; human and social empowerment measures, which enable claimholders to freely and responsibly exercise and claim their human rights; political empowerment measures, which enable claimholders to actively engage in the decision-making process alone or in concert with others; and cultural empowerment measures, which enable claimholders to reshape attitudes, values and behaviors that threaten or harm their free exercise of choice.


HUMAN RIGHTS FLOWCHART 6: HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH TO STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW
STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT: Does strategy integrate and reflect nature and levels of human rights obligations and PANTHER principles?
FEATURES:
* Targets most vulnerable claimholders
* Aimed at realizing human rights
* Addresses normative elements implicit in human rights
* Strengthens duty bearer compliance with obligations
* Anticipates potential risks, harm or threat
* Includes safeguards, special measures and temporary special measures
* Includes child-centered, child-sensitive, child-friendly and child-protective mechanisms
* Includes gender-sensitive and gender-responsive mechanisms
* Directly linked to PANTHER Principles
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* Strategies to realize human rights
* Strategies to achieve MDGs
* Strategies of empowerment
* Strategies of inclusion
* Strategies of equality
* Strategies of accountability
CHOICE OF TOOLS OR PROCESSES:
* OHCHR's Process Guidelines
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STRATEGY REVIEW
KEY QUESTIONS:
* Does strategy contribute to realization of human rights?
* Does strategy contribute to realization of equal rights of women and men?
* Is strategy linked to normative elements of human rights?
* What is strategy's actual or potential impact on claimholders?
* Does strategy reinforce duty bearer discharge of obligations?
* Is strategy inclusive, empowering, equal and accountable?
* Was strategy developed in accord with PANTHER principles?
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** Not described in toolkit
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Human rights strategies of accountability reinforce duty bearer answerability, responsiveness, fairness, competency, effectiveness, efficiency and professionalism to enable duty bearers to create conditions to realize human rights. Strategies of accountability include measures against corruption and abuse, child-friendly, child-protective and child-sensitive measures, and gender-sensitive and gender-responsive measures. Strategies of accountability also contain clear and accessible mechanisms to enable claimholders to question decisions and seek redress in the event of negative consequences.

Substantive Elements of Human Rights Based Strategies

It must be recalled that a core human rights obligation requires the adoption and implementation of a comprehensive strategy to realize human rights (*see* Part II, Chapter 3). UN treaty monitoring bodies have suggested substantive elements of comprehensive national strategies to realize:

- The equal rights of women,
- The rights of the child,
- The right against descent based discrimination,
- The right to education,
- The right to health,
- The right to adequate food,
- The right to adequate housing,
- The right to water,
- The right to work, and
- The right to social security.

Comprehensive national strategies should be informed by human rights norms and standards, compliant with human rights obligations, and formulated and implemented in accord with human rights (PANTHER) principles (*see* Part I, Chapters 1 to 4).

Comprehensive strategy to realize the equal rights of women[1]

The UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women both recommended the adoption of a comprehensive national strategy to realize the equal rights of women.

In General Comment 16 (2005), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights identified the objectives of a comprehensive national strategy to realize the equal rights of women: the elimination of discrimination in all its forms and the resolution of institutional

[1] General Comment No. 16, "The Equal Right of Men and Women to the Enjoyment of All Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (art. 3 of the Covenant)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its thirty-fourth session, 2005, U N Doc. E/C.12/2005/4, 11 August 2005; General Recommendation 17, "Measurement and quantification of unremunerated domestic activities of women and their recognition in the gross national product" adopted by the United Nations Committee on Discrimination against Women at its tenth session, 1991, U N Doc. A/46/38; General Recommendation 9, "Statistical data concerning situation of women," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Discrimination against Women at its eighth session, 1989, U N Doc. A/44/38.

barriers and other obstacles (including those based on cultural and religious traditions) that prevent women from equally enjoying their human rights. The comprehensive national strategy should include policies, programs and activities derived from the obligations of equality and nondiscrimination (*see* Part II, Chapter 3).

In General Recommendation 17 (1991), the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women emphasized that a comprehensive national strategy to realize the equal rights of women must recognize and factor in women's *de facto* economic role in the national economy. Thus the Committee recommends that women's unremunerated domestic activities be measured and quantified, through research and experimental studies such as time use surveys, and subsequently included in the country's gross national product. The measurement and quantification of women's unremunerated domestic activities should form part of the strategy.

Both committees recommend the incorporation of appropriate indicators and benchmarks. In General Recommendation 9, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women recommended data disaggregation by gender with both absolute numbers and percentages.

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the rights of the child[2]

In General Comment 5 (2003), the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child recommended the adoption and implementation of a unifying, comprehensive and human rights based national strategy for children rooted in CRC. The Committee emphasized that the best interests of the child should constitute the fundamental premise of any comprehensive national strategy to realize the rights of the child. The strategy should also address the recommendations of the Committee in its concluding observations on a state party's periodic report.

While recognizing that the strategy will inevitably set priorities, the Committee emphasized that the strategy must not neglect or dilute in any way any human rights obligations. The strategy, to be effective, must be related to the situation of all children and to all the rights of the child, and must incorporate the views and contributions of children and young people and those living and working with them. This will require special child-sensitive materials and processes.

The elements of a comprehensive national strategy to realize the rights of the child are outlined in the Committee's General Comments Nos. 5 (2003) and 11 (2009) and include:

- Prioritization of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of children through the incorporation of special measures to eliminate discrimination;
- Description of sustainable process to realize the rights of children;
- Real and achievable targets in relation to the full range of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights for all children;

[2] General Comment 5, "General measures of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (arts. 4, 42 and 44, para. 6)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child at its thirty-fourth session, 2003, U N Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.9 (Vol. II), 27 May 2008; General Comment 11, "Indigenous children and their rights under the Convention," adopted by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child at its fiftieth session, 2009, U N Doc. CRC/C/GC/11.

- Specific goals, targeted implementation measures and allocation of financial and human resources for every sector (e.g., health, education, agriculture, etc.) affecting children;

- Institutional arrangements for coordination among central government departments, among different provinces and regions, between central and other levels of government and between government and civil society. The Committee stresses the importance of coordination to ensure recognition and adherence to all human rights obligations throughout the entire state machinery at all levels;

- Special measures addressed to indigenous children, based on the principles of the best interests of the child and nondiscrimination that:

    - Address gaps and barriers to the enjoyment of the rights of indigenous children, including disaggregated data collection and the development of indicators to identify existing and potential areas of discrimination of indigenous children,
    - Provide culturally sensitive and appropriate social services, health and education programs,
    - Ensure free and universally accessible birth registration, including mobile units, periodic birth registration campaigns, designation of birth registration offices within indigenous communities, provision of information on the importance of birth registration and negative implications of its absence, and
    - Enhance family environment and alternative care of indigenous children in a culturally sensitive way;

- Adequate human and financial resources; and

- Arrangements for monitoring and continuous review and regular updating.

The Committee also recommends that the strategy be widely disseminated and translated into child-friendly versions and into appropriate languages and forms.

Comprehensive national strategy to address descent based discrimination[3]

In General Recommendation XXIX (2002), the UN Committee on Racial Discrimination recommended the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive national strategy to address descent-based discrimination, developed with the active participation of members of affected communities. Elements of such a strategy include policies, programs and actions to:

- Eradicate poverty among descent-based communities and combat their social exclusion or marginalization;

- Address the special vulnerability of children of descent-based communities to exploitative child labor;

[3] General Recommendation XXIX, "On article 1, paragraph 1, of the Convention (Descent)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Racial Discrimination at its sixty-first session, 2002, U N Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.9 (Vol. II), 27 May 2008.

- Address factors that give rise to the segregation of descent based communities;
- Ensure compliance with human rights obligations; and
- Realize economic and social development on an equal and nondiscriminatory basis.

The strategy should also include special measures to benefit descent-based groups and communities especially in access to public functions, employment and education.

In pursuit of such a strategy, the Committee recommends the conduct of periodic surveys on descent-based discrimination, as well as the use of disaggregated information on geographical distribution and economic and social conditions, analyzed with a gender perspective.

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to education[4]

In General Comment 13 (1999), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended the adoption of a comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to education. The strategy should provide for secondary, higher and fundamental education, and should include programs, actions and mechanisms that comply with the aims of education articulated in the relevant human rights treaties (*see* Part II, Chapter 1) and that ensure free choice of education without interference from anyone. The elements of a comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to education include:

- Curricula directed at achieving the aims of education enunciated in relevant human rights treaties,
- Educational fellowship system to assist disadvantaged groups,
- Minimum educational standards which must be complied with by all educational institutions,
- Measures to address child labor,
- Removal of gender and other stereotyping factors that impede educational access of girls, women and other disadvantaged groups,
- Appropriate spending policies across geographic regions to ensure the quality of education nationwide, and
- Indicators and benchmarks on the right to education.

[4] General Comment No. 13, "The right to education (art. 13)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its twenty-first session, 1999, U N Doc. E/C.12/1999/10; General Comment 1, "The aims of education," adopted by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child at its twenty-sixth session, 2001, U N Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.9 (Vol. II), 27 May 2008.

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to health[5]

The UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child recommend the adoption of a comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to the highest attainable standard of health for all.

In General Comment 14 (2000), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, discussed the substantive elements of a comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to health:

- The strategy should be based on epidemiological evidence, address health concerns of the entire population, and pay particular attention to all vulnerable groups.

- The strategy should be aimed at eliminating health-related discrimination and promoting equality of access to health care and health services.

- The strategy must comply with obligations arising from the right to health, specially core obligations (*see* Part II, Chapter 3).

- The strategy must be accompanied by adequate health resource allocations, warning that inappropriate health resource allocation can lead to overt discrimination. By way of example, the Committee noted that health investments should not disproportionately favor expensive curative health services that are often accessible only to a small, privileged fraction of the population, instead of primary and preventive health care that benefit a larger part of the population.

- The strategy must integrate a gender perspective to promote better health for both women and men. The value of a gender-based approach lies in its recognition that biological and socio-cultural factors play a significant role in influencing the health of men and women.

- The strategy must combine elements of preventive, curative, promotive and rehabilitative health treatment.

- The strategy must uphold the best interest of the child and be child-friendly, child-protective and child-sensitive; the strategy must include measures, programs, policies and actions that:

    - Reduce infant mortality,
    - Promote the healthy development of infants and children,

[5] General Recommendation 24, "Article 12 of the Convention (Women and health)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Discrimination against Women at its twentieth session, 1999, U N Doc. A/54/38/Rev. 1, chap. I; General Comment No. 14, "The right to the highest attainable standard of heath (art. 12)" adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its twenty-second session, 2000, U N Doc. E/C.12/2000/4; General Comment 11, "Adolescent health and development in the context of the Convention on the Rights of the Child ," adopted by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child at its thirty-third session, 2003, U N Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.9 (Vol. II), 27 May 2008.

- Ensure access to essential health services for the child and his/her family, including pre- and post-natal care for mothers,
- Ensure access to child-friendly information about preventive and health-promoting behavior and support to families and communities in implementing these practices,
- Ensure equal access to adequate nutrition, safe environments, and physical and mental health services,
- Abolish harmful traditional practices affecting the health of children,
- Specially address children with disabilities, and
- Provide safe and supportive environment for adolescents through youth-friendly health care that respects confidentiality and privacy and includes appropriate sexual and reproductive health services.

In General Recommendation 11 (2003), the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child required the adoption of data-collection mechanisms covering adolescents that allow disaggregation by sex, age, origin and socio-economic status, and the analysis of the situation of ethnic and/or indigenous minorities, migrant or refugee adolescents, adolescents with disabilities, working adolescents, etc. The Committee recommends the participation of adolescents in the analysis to ensure that the information is understood and utilized in an adolescent-sensitive way.

- The strategy should address the right to health of older persons, including physical and psychological rehabilitative measures aimed at maintaining the functionality and autonomy of older persons; the strategy must include measures that spare chronically and terminally ill persons from avoidable pain and enable them to die with dignity.

- The strategy should address the right to physical and mental health of persons with disabilities and should require public and private health sectors to comply with the obligation of nondiscrimination.

- The strategy should incorporate special measures to ensure the right of indigenous people to health. These measures should enhance indigenous peoples' access to health services and care, which must be culturally appropriate and take into account traditional preventive care, healing practices and medicines. Special measures should also include the provision of resources for indigenous peoples to design, deliver and control health services and protect vital medicinal plants, animals and minerals necessary for the full enjoyment of health. The Committee noted the collective dimension of the right to health of indigenous peoples, recognizing that the health of the individual is often linked to the health of the society as a whole. Thus the Committee cautioned against supporting any development-related activities that lead to the displacement of indigenous peoples against their will, the denial of their sources of nutrition, and the rupture of their symbiotic relationship with their lands.

- The strategy must be devised and periodically reviewed in a participatory and transparent process and should include methods of measurement, such as right to health indicators and benchmarks.

The UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women both recommend the adoption and implementation of a comprehensive national strategy to realize women's right to health throughout their life span.

In General Comment 14 (2000), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommends that the strategy should include programs, actions, policies and measures to: prevent and treat diseases affecting women, provide access to a full range of high quality and affordable health care, including sexual and reproductive services. The major goal of the strategy should be to reduce women's health risks, by lowering the rates of maternal mortality and protecting women from domestic violence. The strategy should also incorporate measures that remove all barriers that interfere with women's access to health services, education and information, including in the area of sexual and reproductive health, by integrating preventive, promotive and remedial actions to protect women from the impact of harmful traditional cultural practices and norms.

In General Recommendation 24 (1999), the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women emphasized that a comprehensive national health strategy for women must address the distinctive features and factors that differ for women in comparison to men, such as biological factors (menstrual cycle, reproductive function, menopause, higher risk of exposure to sexually transmitted diseases), socio economic factors (unequal power relations between women and men at home and workplace, violence against women), and psychosocial factors (depression, post-partum depression, anorexia, bulimia). The Committee identified the specific objectives of such a strategy: to prevent and treat diseases and conditions affecting women, to respond to violence against women, to ensure universal access for all women to the full range of high-quality and affordable health care including sexual and reproductive health services, and to remove barriers to women's access to health services, education and information. The strategy must be based on scientific and ethical research and assessment of the health status and needs of women and must take into account ethnic, regional or community variations or practices based on religion, tradition or culture. Elements of such a strategy include:

- Appropriate allocations of adequate budgetary, human and administrative resources to ensure that women's health receives a fair share of the overall health budget;
- Use and application of a gender perspective;
- Reduction of maternal mortality rates through safe motherhood services and prenatal assistance;
- Consistency with human rights of women including rights to autonomy, privacy, confidentiality, informed consent and choice;
- Comprehensive, mandatory, gender-sensitive training courses on women's health and human rights for health workers; and

- Special attention on adolescents to prevent and treat sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDs and prevent unwanted pregnancy through family planning and sex education.

In formulating such a strategy, the Committee requires the active involvement of women as well as reliable data disaggregated by sex on the incidence and severity of diseases and conditions hazardous to women's health and nutrition and on the availability and cost effectiveness of preventive and curative measures.

UNFPA's Note on Concluding Observations of United Nations Treaty Monitoring Bodies[6]

Reproductive rights are fundamental to women's health and social equality. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) commits States parties to: "ensure … access to specific educational information to help to ensure the health and well-being of families, including information and advice on family planning;"[1] "take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of health care in order to ensure, on a basis of equality with men and women, access to health care services, including those related to family planning;"[2] "take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in rural areas in order to assure…access to adequate health care facilities, including information, counseling and services in family planning…;"[3] and to "take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations and in particular shall ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women…[t]he same rights to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and to have access to the information, education and means to enable them to exercise these rights."[4] Furthermore, the Committee's General Recommendation 24 (Women and Health) also expands upon the integral role of reproductive health and rights in ensuring women's rights.[5] Article 1 of the Convention prohibits discrimination against women that has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women's human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Committee has specifically expressed concern about some of these issues in relation to the Philippines. In concluding observations issued by the Committee on the Republic of the Philippine's combined third and fourth periodic reports in 1997, the Committee explicitly recommended that reproductive and sexual health services, including family planning and contraception, be made available and accessible to women throughout the country.7 This recommendation evolved out of concern about the decentralization of population and development services from the national to the local level, where certain local government units (LGUs) started introducing prohibitions on modern contraceptives.8

In its 2006 Concluding Observations to the Philippines, the CEDAW Committee expressed concern about:

"" [T]he inadequate recognition and protection of the reproductive health and rights of women in the Philippines. The Committee is concerned at the high maternal mortality rates, particularly the number of deaths resulting from induced abortions, high fertility rates, inadequate family planning services, the low rates of contraceptive use and the difficulties of obtaining contraceptives. It is also concerned about the lack of sex education, especially in rural areas. It is concerned at the high rate of teenage pregnancies, which present a significant obstacle to girls' educational opportunities and economic empowerment."

[6] This section was written by the UNFPA Country Office Philippines; *see* UNFPA Country Office Philippines, *Reproductive Rights and Development Planning,* 2010.

The Right to Health Care, including Reproductive Health Care and Family Planning (Articles 12, 14(2)(b) and (c), and 10(h))

The ability of women to control their fertility lies at the core of their reproductive rights. The failure of governments to ensure this right through the creation of universal access to a complete range of contraceptive methods and reproductive health services exposes women to numerous health risks associated with unplanned pregnancy including unsafe abortion and maternal mortality. In General Recommendation 24, the Committee calls upon states parties to prioritize the prevention of unwanted pregnancy through family planning and sex education and reduce maternal mortality rates through safe motherhood services and prenatal assistance.[11]

[1] Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), *adopted* Dec. 18, 1979, G.A. Res. 34/180, U.N. GAOR, 34th Sess., Supp. No. 46, art. 10(h), U.N. Doc. A/34/46 (1979), 1249 U.N.T.S. 13 (*entered into force Sept. 3, 1981*) [hereinafter, CEDAW].

[2] *Id.*, Article 12(1).

[3] *Id*., Article 14(2) (b).

[4] *Id.*, Article 16.

[5] *Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women: Twentieth Session,General Recommendation 24* , para. 31(c), U.N.Doc. A/54/38 (May 4, 1999), *available* at http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/reports/20report.pdf [*see also* http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/recommendations/recomm.htm#recom24] [hereinafter *CEDAW, General Recommendation 24*].

[6] PHIL. CONST (1987). art. 2, § 6 .(declaring separation of church and state).

[7] *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women:Philippines* .. 16th Sess., 313th mtg., para. *available* at http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/a82151e7b0b3b8768025649d002df415?Opendocument#top [hereinafter *CEDAW Concluding Observations on the Philippines* (1997)].

[8] *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW): Combined Fifth and Sixth Periodic Reports of States Parties, Philippines*, CEDAW Committee, para. 33, 433, 452, 481 U.N. Doc.CEDAW/C/PHI/5-6 (August,2 2004), *available at http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N04/459/70/PDF/N0445970.pdf?OpenElement* [hereinafter *Philippine 5th and 6th Country Report to CEDAW*].

[9] *CEDAW Concluding Observations on the Philippines* (1997), *supra* note 7, para. 292.

[10] *Id.*, para. 293.

[11] *CEDAW, General Recommendation 24* , *supra* note 5, para. 31 (c).

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to adequate food[7]

In General Comment 12 (1999), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommends the adoption of a comprehensive national strategy to ensure the right to food for all. Human rights norms and principles should define the objectives of the strategy, and inform the formulation of policies, programs, actions and corresponding benchmarks and indicators. The strategy must also identify the resources available to meet the objectives in the most cost-effective way, and set forth the responsibilities and timeframe for its implementation.

The strategy should be based on the normative content of the right to adequate food (*see* Part II, Chapter 2) and on human rights obligations arising from the right (*see* Part II, Chapter 3).

The strategy should be formulated and implemented in full compliance with the principles of accountability, transparency, people's participation, decentralization, legislative capacity and the independence of the judiciary. In this regard, the Committee recommends the adoption of appropriate institutional mechanisms to ensure adherence with these principles.

The strategy should address critical issues and measures relating to all aspects of the food system (e.g., production, processing, distribution, marketing and consumption) and include parallel measures in the fields of health, education, employment and social security. The strategy should also incorporate measures, actions and programs that ensure the most sustainable use and management of natural and other resources for food at the national, regional, local and household levels.

The strategy should prevent discrimination in access to food or resources for food by, among others, guaranteeing full and equal access to economic resources particularly for women (including inheritance and the ownership of land and property, access to credit, natural resources and appropriate technology); adopting measures to respect and protect self-employment and work; and maintaining registries on rights in land (including forests).

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to adequate housing[8]

In General Comment 4 (1991), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommends the adoption of a national housing strategy, which must:

- Define the objectives for the development of shelter conditions,
- Identify available resources available to meet these goals in the most cost-effective way,
- Establish responsibilities and time-frame for the implementation of the necessary measures,

[7] General Comment No. 12, "The right to adequate food (art. 11)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its twentieth session, 1999, U N Doc. E/C.12/1999/5.

[6] General Comment No. 4, "The right to adequate housing (art. 11(1) of the Covenant)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its sixth session, 1991, U N Doc. E/1992/23; General Comment No. 7, "The right to adequate housing (art. 11(1) of the Covenant) forced evictions," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its sixteenth session, 1997, U N Doc. E/1998/22, annex IV.

- Reflect extensive genuine participation of all affected, including the homeless, the inadequately housed and their representatives,

- Incorporate institutional arrangements to ensure coordination between national or central authorities and regional and local authorities in order to reconcile related policies in economics, agriculture, environment, energy, etc. with human rights obligations,

- Ensure availability of natural materials that constitute chief sources of building materials for housing,

- Guarantee the physical safety of occupants by comprehensively applying the World Health Organization's *Health Principles of Housing,* which recognize that inadequate and deficient housing and living conditions are invariably associated with higher mortality and morbidity rates,

- Prioritize and adopt special measures to address the special housing needs of the elderly, children, persons with disabilities, the terminally ill, persons with HIV/AIDs, persons with persistent medical problems, victims of natural disasters, people living in disaster-prone areas, and social groups living in unfavorable conditions,

- Increase access to land by landless or impoverished segments of the society,

- Prohibit forced evictions. In General Comment 7 (1997), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights defined forced evictions as "the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families and/or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection." The Committee noted that the prohibition on forced evictions does not apply to evictions carried out in accordance with law and in conformity with the provisions of human rights treaties. The Committee laid down the following guidelines and procedural protections in cases where evictions are justified:

    - Evictions must be carried out in strict compliance with the relevant provisions of international human rights law and in accordance with general principles of reasonableness and proportionality;
    - Evictions must be accompanied by an opportunity for genuine consultation with those affected;
    - There must be adequate and reasonable notice for all affected persons prior to the scheduled date of eviction;
    - Information on the proposed evictions, and, where applicable, on the alternative purpose for which the land or housing is to be used, must be available in reasonable time to all those affected;
    - Especially where groups of people are involved, government officials or their representatives must be present during an eviction;
    - All persons carrying out the eviction must be properly identified;

- Evictions should not to take place in particularly bad weather or at night unless the affected persons freely consent;
- Legal remedies must be provided to affected individuals or groups;
- Where possible, legal aid must be provided to persons in need to seek redress from the courts;
- Evictions should not result in individuals being rendered homeless or vulnerable to the violation of other human rights; whenever those affected are unable to provide for themselves, government must take all appropriate measures, to the maximum of its available resources, to ensure that adequate alternative housing, resettlement or access to productive land is available.

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to water[9]

In General Comment 15 (2002), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommends the adoption of a comprehensive and integrated strategy to ensure sufficient and safe water for present and future generations. The strategy must be devised and periodically reviewed on the basis of a participatory and transparent process and should include right to water indicators and benchmarks. The Committee recommends that such strategy may include a mix of policies, programs, actions and measures that:

- Reduce the depletion of water resources through unsustainable extraction, diversion and damming;
- Reduce and eliminate the contamination of watersheds and water-related eco-systems;
- Monitor water reserves;
- Ensure that proposed developments do not interfere with access to adequate water;
- Assess the impacts of actions that may impinge upon water availability and natural-ecosystems watersheds, such as climate changes, desertification and increased soil salinity, deforestation and loss of biodiversity;
- Increase the efficient use of water by end-users;
- Reduce water wastage in its distribution;
- Integrate response mechanisms for emergency situations;
- Strengthen the capacities of competent institutions and incorporate appropriate institutional arrangements to implement the strategy;

[9] General Comment No. 15, "The right to water (arts. 11 and 12)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its twenty-ninth session, 2002, U N Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.9 (Vol. I), 27 May 2008.

- Adopt relatively low-cost targeted programs for those most vulnerable and use a range of appropriate low-cost techniques and technologies;

- Address de facto discrimination in the allocation of water resources, investments in water, and access to water;

- Incorporate special measures to address those individuals and groups who have traditionally faced difficulties in exercising the right to water, including women, children, minority groups, indigenous peoples, refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons, migrant workers, prisoners and detainees, by:

    - Including women in decision-making processes concerning water resources and entitlements and addressing the disproportionate burden women bear in the collection of water,
    - Providing adequate water in educational institutions and addressing the child's burden of collecting water,
    - Providing access to properly maintained water facilities in rural and deprived urban areas and protecting traditional water sources in rural areas from unlawful encroachment and pollution,
    - Protecting indigenous peoples' access to water resources on their ancestral lands from encroachment and unlawful pollution and by providing indigenous peoples with resources to design, deliver and control their access to water,
    - Ensuring nomadic and traveller communities with access to adequate water at traditional and designated halting sites,
    - Ensuring access to adequate water to refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons and returnees, whether they stay in camps or in urban and rural areas,
    - Providing prisoners and detainees with sufficient and safe water for their daily individual requirements,
    - Providing water to groups facing difficulties with physical access to water, such as older persons, persons with disabilities, victims of natural disasters, persons living in disaster-prone areas, and those living in arid and semi-arid areas, or on small islands;

- Adopt and implement appropriate pricing policies such as free or low-cost water;

- Provide income supplements based on the principle of equity, which demands that households living in poverty should not be disproportionately burdened with water expenses compared to richer households; and

- Ensuring access to adequate sanitation, taking into account the needs of women and children.

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to work[10]

In General Comment 18 (2005), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommends the adoption and implementation of a national employment strategy that is based on and addresses the rights and concerns of all workers. The strategy must be adopted through a participatory and transparent process that includes employers' and workers' organizations. The strategy should target disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and groups and include indicators and benchmarks to measure and review progress in the realization of the right to work.

The strategy must not only stimulate economic growth and development, but should also raise levels of living, meet manpower requirements and overcome unemployment and underemployment.

In addition, the strategy should include detailed policies, programs, measures and actions that:

- Provide greater work opportunities especially for the disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and groups,
- Address all forms of discrimination in employment and promote equal access to work opportunities,
- Prohibit the labor of children below the age of 16 as well as all forms of economic exploitation and forced labor of children,
- Increase resources allocated to reducing the unemployment rate, especially among women, the disadvantaged and vulnerable,
- Establish a compensation mechanism in the event of loss of employment, and
- Establish employment services (public or private) at the national and local levels.

The comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to work may also be informed by the obligations arising from ILO Conventions ratified by the Philippines, along with their interpretative Recommendations.

[10] General Comment No. 18, "The right to work (art. 6 of the Covenant)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its thirty-fifth session, 2005, U N Doc. E/C.12/GC/18.

The policy to promote full, productive and freely chosen employment required by ILO Convention 122, *Employment Policy Convention, 1962*,[11] should be guided by the following general principles detailed in Recommendation 122:[12]

- Clear and public definition of the aims of employment policy, preferably in the form of quantitative targets for economic growth and employment;
- Involvement of representatives of employers and workers in the formulation and implementation of the employment policy;
- Based on analytical studies of present and future size and distribution of the labor force, employment, unemployment and underemployment;
- Recognition of importance of full development of human capabilities (through education, vocational guidance and training, health services and housing), coupled with appropriate balance in expenditure;
- Inclusion of necessary measures of assistance for workers, young people and new entrants to the labor force, to find suitable and productive employment and adapt to changing needs of the economy;
- Coordination with overall economic and social policy and mutually reinforcing measures of employment policy and economic and social policy decisions;
- Respect for autonomy and responsibility of employers and workers and their organizations;
- Issuance of public statement explaining reasons behind and actions to be taken to address lack of employment opportunities; and
- Incorporation of social security for unemployed and underemployed.

In selecting the measures that may form part of the employment policy, the following standards, contained in Recommendation 122, should be applied:

- The choice of appropriate measures and their timing should be based on careful study of the causes of unemployment disaggregated by different types of unemployment;
- General economic measures should be designed to promote a continuously expanding yet reasonably stable economy;
- Short-term measures should be planned and taken to prevent the emergence of general unemployment or underemployment;

[11] Ratified by the Philippines on 13 January 1976.
[12] Adopted by the General Conference of the International Labor Organization on 9 July 1964.

- Counter-measures against recession, inflation or other imbalances should be introduced at varied or short notice;

- Measures should be planned and taken to even out seasonal fluctuations in employment;

- Measures should be planned and taken to prevent the emergence and growth of unemployment or underemployment resulting from structural change; Recommendation 122 defines structural change as "long-term and substantial change taking the form of shifts in demand, of the emergence of new sources of supply, national or foreign (including supplies of goods from countries with lower costs of production) or of new techniques of production, or of changes in the size of the labor force." Measures of adaptation to structural change should be aimed at obtaining the greatest benefit from economic and technical progress and protecting workers from financial or other hardships; these measures could include programs such as:

    - An effective employment service,
    - Provision or encouragement of training and retraining facilities,
    - Coordination of housing policy with employment policy, and
    - Provision of removal grants for workers and their dependants by the employer or out of public funds.

- Measures should be planned and taken to meet particular needs of vulnerable persons (i.e., older workers, persons with disabilities, persons with HIV-AIDs, and other vulnerable workers);

- Special attention should be given to employment and income in lagging regions and areas;

- Employment policy should recognize that, based on common experience, technological progress and improved productivity carry possibilities for more leisure and intensified educational activities; measures to take advantage of these possibilities may include:

    - Reduction of hours of work without a decrease in wages,
    - Longer paid holidays; and
    - Later entry into the labor force, combined with more advanced education and training.

Recommendation 122 suggests a range of actions that may be taken by employers and workers and their organizations in order to promote the achievement and maintenance of full, productive and freely chosen employment as well as address employment problems often associated with economic underdevelopment (e.g., investment and income policy, industrial employment, rural employment and population growth).

In order to fully apply the principle of *equal remuneration for work of equal value* enshrined in ILO Convention 100, *Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951*,[13] Recommendation 90,[14] which interprets the Convention, lists a series of actions governments are urged to take in order to fully apply this principle; actions include, among others:

- Providing equal or equivalent facilities for vocational guidance, employment counseling, vocational training and placement;
- Providing welfare and social services to meet the needs of women workers;
- Promoting equality in access to occupations and posts without prejudice; and,
- Where desirable, the conduct of investigations to promote the principle.

Recommendation 111,[14] which interprets ILO Convention 111, *Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958,*[15] highlights the obligation of states to formulate and apply a national policy to prevent discrimination in employment and occupation; it mandates that the national policy be based on the following principles:

- Promotion of equality of opportunity and treatment in employment and occupation as a matter of public concern;
- Enjoyment of equality of opportunity and treatment in access to vocational guidance, placement services, training and employment of own choice, advancement, security of tenure, remuneration for work of equal value, and conditions of work (including hours of work, rest periods, annual holidays with pay, occupational safety, occupational health, social security, etc.);
- Non-obstruction or non-interference, directly or indirectly, with the promotion of nondiscrimination;
- Non-inclusion of any form or taint of discrimination in any collective negotiations or agreements and industrial relations.

Recommendation 111 also stresses the obligations of states to take all means to foster public understanding and acceptance of the principle of nondiscrimination and to receive, examine and investigate complaints of discrimination.

[13] Ratified by the Philippines on 29 December 1953.
[14] Adopted by the General Conference of the International Labor Organization on 29 June1951.
[15] Adopted by the General Conference of the International Labor Organization on 25 June1958.
[16] Ratified by the Philippines on 17 November 1960.

To facilitate the abolition of all forms of forced or compulsory labor required by ILO Convention 29, *Forced Labor Convention, 1930*[17] *and* ILO Convention 105, *Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, 1957*,[18] the following principles, contained in Recommendation 35,[19] may guide national policy to avoid indirect compulsion to labor:

- In deciding questions related to economic development, increases in the number and extent of industrial, mining and agricultural undertakings, non-indigenous settlement, and grant of forest or other concessions, states are urged to consider the amount of available labor, capacities of the population for labor, and the "evil effects which too sudden changes in the habits of life and labor may have on the social conditions of the population."

- Avoid indirect means that artificially increase economic pressure upon populations to seek wage-earning employment, such as: (a) imposing such taxation that would compel the population to seek wage-earning employment with private undertakings; (b) imposing restrictions on the possession, occupation, or use of land that would make it difficult to gain a living by independent cultivation; (c) abusively extending the generally accepted meaning of vagrancy; (d) adopting laws that would place workers in the service of others in a position of advantage compared with other workers.

- Avoid restricting the voluntary flow of labor from one form of employment to another or from one district to another.

To facilitate compliance with obligations arising from ILO Convention 182, *Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention*, *1999,*[20] development planners may resort to Recommendation 190,[21] which supplements the Convention and is applied in conjunction with it. The Recommendation outlines the aims of programs of action required by the Convention; these include:

- Identification and denunciation of the worst forms of child labor;

- Prevention of engagement of children in or removal from the worst forms of child labor, protection from reprisals and provision for rehabilitation and social integration;

- Special attention to younger children, the girl child, the problem of hidden work situations, in which girls are at special risk and other groups of children with special vulnerabilities or needs;

- Identification, reaching out and working with communities where children are at special risk; and

[17] Ratified by the Philippines on 15 July 2005.
[18] Ratified by the Philippines on 17 November 1960.
[19] Adopted by the General Conference of the International Labor Organization on 28 June 1930.
[20] Ratified by the Philippines on 28 November 2000.
[21] Adopted by the General Conference of the International Labor Organization on 17 June1999.

- Informing, sensitizing and mobilizing public opinion and concerned groups, including children and their families.

Recommendation 190 also suggests that, to facilitate the determination of the types of work, consideration should be given to:

- Work that exposes children to physical, psychological or sexual abuse,

- Work that is underground, under water, at dangerous heights or in confined spaces,

- Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or that involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads,

- Work in an unhealthy environment which may expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health, and

- Work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer.

Recommendation 190 requires the maintenance of detailed information and statistical data on:

- The nature and extent of child labor, which should serve as a basis for determining priorities for national action, disaggregated by sex, age group, occupation, branch of economic activity, status in employment, school attendance and geographical location, as well as information on violations; care should be taken to ensure the right to privacy of children in the worst forms of child labor.

- Statistical data should be accompanied by appropriate national mechanisms to monitor actions taken to prohibit and eliminate the worst forms of child labor, after consultation with employers' and workers' organizations.

Recommendation 190 also suggests the adoption and implementation of legislation or regulations that specify those to be held responsible for non-compliance with the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor; it urges governments to criminalize the worst forms of child labor and provide criminal, civil or administrative remedies, including special supervision of enterprises which have used the worst forms of child labor, and, in cases of persistent violation, consideration of temporary or permanent revocation of permits to operate.

Recommendation 190 stresses the need for cooperation with international efforts to prohibit and eliminate the worst forms of child labor through information exchange on criminal offenses and international criminal networks, investigation and prosecution of those involved in the sale and trafficking of children, or in the use, procurement or offer of children for illicit activities, for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;

registration of perpetrators of such offenses; mobilizing resources for national or international programs; mutual legal assistance; technical assistance including the exchange of information; and support for social and economic development, poverty eradication programs and universal education.

To meet the obligations arising from ILO Convention 138, *Minimum Age Convention, 1973*,[22] Recommendation 147[23] elaborates on the actions governments should take in pursuit of the policy to effectively abolish child labor. Among the many actions recommended are:

- Firm commitment to full employment;
- Measures to promote employment-oriented development in rural and urban areas;
- Progressive extension of economic and social measures to alleviate poverty and ensure family living standards and income making it unnecessary for children to work;
- Development and progressive extension without discrimination of social security and family welfare measures aimed at ensuring the child's maintenance;
- Development and progressive extension of adequate facilities for education and vocational orientation and training;
- Development and progressive extension of appropriate facilities to protect the welfare of children and young persons, including employed young persons;
- Provision of fellowships and vocational training to children and young persons who do not have families or do not live with their own families and of migrant children and young persons who live and travel with their families;
- Requiring full-time attendance at school or participation in approved vocational orientation or training programs up to age at least equal to that specified for admission to employment; adoption of measures including preparatory training not involving hazards;
- Fixing minimum age at same level for all sectors; fixing minimum age of employment at 18 years for hazardous employment or work (work likely to jeopardize health, safety or morals of young persons) and determining types of work which may be hazardous to children and young persons;
- Safeguarding and close supervision of work conditions of children and young persons;
- Provision of fair remuneration guided by the principle of *equal pay for work of equal value;* strict limitation of hours spent at work; coverage by social security schemes; maintenance of satisfactory standards of safety and health and appropriate instruction and supervision;

[22] Ratified by the Philippines on 04 June 1998.
[23] Adopted by the General Conference of the International Labor Organization on 26 June1973.

- Strengthening of labor inspection and related services and strengthening of services for improvement and inspection, emphasizing the role played by inspectors in supplying information and advice;

- Facilitation of verification of ages through the maintenance of an effective system of birth registration, requiring employers to keep and make registers or other documents indicating the names and ages or dates of birth of employed children and young persons and those receiving vocational orientation or training in their undertakings; and

- Issuance of licenses or other documents indicating eligibility to work to children and young persons working in the streets, in outside stalls, in public places, in itinerant occupations or in other related circumstances.

The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child has urged states to continuously review national regulations on minimum ages for employment to make them compatible with international standards, and to regulate the working environment and conditions for adolescents who are working (in accordance with article 32 of the Convention, as well as ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182).[24]

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the right to social security[25]

In General Comment 19 (2007), the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recommended the adoption of a national strategy to realize the right to social security, which includes the allocation of adequate fiscal and other resources. The Committee recommends resort to international cooperation and technical assistance if domestic resources are inadequate to realize the right to social security. The national social security strategy should include policies, programs and actions that:

- Allocate resources to facilitate access to social security for all members of society,

- Review all restrictions on access to social security schemes to ensure nondiscrimination in law or in fact,

- Pay special attention to those individuals and groups who traditionally face difficulties in exercising the right to social security, in particular women, the unemployed, workers inadequately protected by social security, persons working in the informal economy, sick or injured workers, persons with disabilities, older persons, children and adult dependents, domestic workers, home workers, minority groups, refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons, returnees, non-nationals, prisoners and detainees, by

[24] General Comment 11, "Adolescent health and development in the context of the Convention on the Rights of the Child," adopted by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child at its thirty-third session, 2003, U N Doc. HRI/GEN/1/Rev.9 (Vol. II), 27 May 2008.

[25] General Comment No. 19, "The right to social security (art. 9)," adopted by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its thirty-ninth session 2007, U N Doc. E/C.12/GC/19.

- Equalizing the compulsory retirement age for both men and women; ensuring that women receive equal benefits in both public and private pension schemes; guaranteeing adequate maternity leave for women, paternity leave for men, and parental leave for both men and women; eliminating factors that prevent women from making equal contributions to such schemes (e.g., intermittent participation in the workforce on account of family responsibilities and unequal wage outcomes); ensuring that schemes take into account factors such as child rearing periods, periods to take care of adult dependents, differences in the average life expectancy of men and women, etc., in the design of benefit formulas,

- Extending coverage of social security systems to workers inadequately protected by social security, including part-time workers, casual workers, the self-employed and home workers; adapting social security schemes based on occupational activity to enable workers inadequately protected to enjoy conditions equivalent to those of comparable full-time workers; adopting and implementing complementary measures to augment occupation-based schemes that do not provide adequate coverage to inadequately protected workers,

- Extending coverage of social security systems to persons working in the informal economy; removing obstacles that prevent persons working in the informal economy from accessing informal social security schemes, such as community-based insurance; ensuring a minimum level of coverage of risks and contingencies with progressive expansion over time; respecting and supporting social security schemes developed within the informal economy such as micro-insurance and other microcredit related schemes; and adopting universal pension and health-care schemes,

- Removing all barriers that exclude indigenous peoples and ethnic and linguistic minorities from social security systems such as the imposition of unreasonable eligibility conditions or the lack of adequate access to information, and

- Adopting and implementing proactive measures for internally displaced persons to enjoy equal access to social security schemes, including by waiving residence requirements and making allowance for provision of benefits or other related services at the place of displacement;

- Cover disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, even where there is limited capacity to finance social security, either from tax revenues and/or contributions from beneficiaries, through the adoption of low-cost and alternative schemes.

Comprehensive national strategy to realize the MDGs[26]

In September 2000, 191 countries, including the Philippines, pledged to achieve eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the year 2015. Initially, the MDGs consisted of a series of eight time-bound goals, accompanied by eighteen targets and 48 indicators; since its adoption in 2000 however, three more targets and 12 more indicators were added to the initial list.[27] The table below presents the most recent list of MDG goals, targets and indicators.

[26] UN Millennium Declaration, September 2000.

[27] United Nations Development Fund, Annex 1.1, "Beyond the Midpoint: Achieving the Millennium Development Goals," 2010.

UN Secretary General's Suggested Specific Acceleration Efforts

Poverty and hunger (Millennium Development Goal 1)

- Focus on bolstering agricultural productivity and output quality;
- To boost productivity, ensure immediate access by smallholder farmers to inputs (e.g. fertilizer, high-yield seeds, equipment, small-scale irrigation, technical extension and post-harvest storage) and introduce sustainable agricultural practices; note that "Intensive farming, if not properly regulated, can lead to the depletion of water sources, pollution by chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and a loss of biodiversity;"
- Increased food production must be complemented by other interventions to address inequities of access to food and to bolster nutrition;
- Ensure access to decent and productive employment and promote entrepreneurship;
- Pay close attention to the recommendations in the "Global Jobs Pact, adopted by the Governments and employers' and workers' delegates of the International Labour Organization (ILO) 183 member States. The Pact proposes a range of tested crisis-response and recovery measures that focus on employment and social protection. It is not a one-size-fits-all solution, but a portfolio of tried and tested policy options that countries can adapt to their specific needs and situation."

Education (Millennium Development Goal 2)

- Address infrastructure, human resource and governance constraints to strengthen national education systems;
- Address inequalities across income, gender and geographical, linguistic and ethnic lines when allocating resources;
- Address progression through the school system — retention, completion and learning achievement.

UN Secretary General's Suggested Specific Acceleration Efforts (*continued*)

Gender equality (Millennium Development Goal 3)

- Remove key barriers to girls' education;
- Generate full and productive employment and create decent work and income for those beyond school age, promote equal skills development and employment opportunities, and reduce wage gaps between women and men;
- Introduce gender-responsive social protection measures and labor laws and policies based on a life-cycle and rights-based approach;
- Introduce positive action to improve the numbers and influence of women in all political decision-making;
- Improve national-level capacity to track and report on progress, gaps and opportunities through better generation and use of sex-disaggregated data and statistics, including on time use;
- Reduce women's work burden through investment in infrastructure, labor saving technologies and gender-responsive economic stimulus packages;
- Strengthen accountability for enhancing women's rights and ending gender discrimination; scale up investments for gender equality by institutionalizing "gender-responsive budgeting" as part of public financial management reforms to ensure that financial commitments advance gender equality.

Health (Millennium Development Goals 4, 5 and 6)

- Strengthen national health systems with the active participation of civil society organizations;
- Undertake targeted interventions in key areas (e.g., immunization programs, increasing number of trained midwives and the use of insecticide-treated bed nets);
- Immediately scale up and make universal those interventions with greatest impact on health-related MDG targets (e.g., universal access to sexual and reproductive health, immunization and key child-survival interventions, HIV prevention, mitigation and treatment, prevention and treatment of neglected tropical diseases, prevention and treatment services for malaria and tuberculosis and low-cost access to safe water and sanitation);
- Scale up global financing in predictable ways;
- Prioritize specific regions and vulnerable groups;
- Strengthen the capacity of all stakeholders to address issues of gender equality and delivery of health services and promote partnerships with civil society organizations, including women's groups, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Promoting sustainable development (Millennium Development Goal 7)

- Adopt the principle of environmental sustainability and adapt it to national priorities and policies, the local context and sub-national or ecosystem specificities;
- Adopt comprehensive and coherent development planning framework, including national sustainable development strategies to integrate all aspects related to environmental sustainability;
- Promote alternative renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies, undertake policy reforms to substantially reduce perverse subsidies for carbon-intensive development, and to create positive incentives, appropriate taxes and other initiatives to encourage the adoption of renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies;
- Greatly expand investment in sustainable ecosystem management biodiversity protection measures that respect indigenous peoples' traditional rights to marine- and forest-based livelihoods;
- Adopt national action plans and increase investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy;
- Provide safe drinking water and sanitation with considerable political will with significant financial, technical and human resources;
- Adopt integrated national water strategies addressing four main uses of fresh water (agriculture, households, industry and ecosystem services) that respond to growing water shortages, exacerbated by climate change;
- Adopt sound urban planning, more balanced growth, including rural development to reduce the slum populations.

UN Secretary General's Suggested Specific Acceleration Efforts (*continued*)

Expanding and strengthening international partnerships (Millennium Development Goal 8)

- Improve the quantity, quality, predictability and durability of official development assistance;
- Accelerate progress in multilateral trade negotiations to achieve effective market access for agricultural, manufactured and service exports, particularly in sectors and modes of supply of interest to the developing countries, including modes 1 (cross-border supply) and 4 (movement of natural persons), and removal of trade distorting agricultural subsidies;
- Strengthen aid for trade to help least developed countries, which continue to experience difficulties in fully utilizing preferential schemes and in overcoming supply-side constraints;
- Donors must substantially increase technical, financial and political support for aid for trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework initiative;
- Maintain open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system;
- Consider measures such as additional concessional financing, standstills on debt obligations, debt relief and debt restructuring to help countries facing severe financial distress as a consequence of the crisis to avoid harsh domestic adjustments jeopardizing the achievement of the MDGs and avoid public indebtedness reaching unsustainable levels;
- Enlarge access to affordable essential medicines;
- Reduce the technology gap that may lead to innovative and low-cost development solutions;
- Strengthen public-private partnerships, to close the large gaps that remain in access and affordability across countries and income groups to new technologies;
- Address challenges of climate change by increasing investments in research, development and deployment of technologies in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

In 2007, NEDA released the "Philippines Midterm Progress Report on the Millennium Development Goals." In its report, NEDA emphasized that the country made "considerable progress … in poverty reduction, nutrition, gender equality, reducing child mortality, combating HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases and access to safe drinking water and sanitary toilet facility." But NEDA recognized that the Philippines still "needs to work harder on MDG targets concerning universal access to education, maternal mortality and access to reproductive health services."

In 2009-2010, the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), Asian Development Bank (ADB), and UNDP assessed the performance of countries in the Asia Pacific region with respect to progress in achieving the MDGs. In its report, UN ESCAP, ADB, and UNDP found the Philippines "off track in more than 40 percent of the 21 indicators, including hunger, infant morality and maternal mortality."[29] In the same report, the authors recognized the fiscal stimulus package adopted and implemented by the Philippines to address the global financial crisis, but suggested that if the Philippine fiscal stimulus package were "fully pro-MDG," it "would, accumulated over several years, have increased GDP by 12.0 percent rather than the 6.2 percent the current stimulus package is expected to deliver … and would reduce the poverty rate by 7.5 percent and the under-five mortality rate by more than 3.8 percent."

In 2010, UNDP suggested three "fully pro-MDG" strategies:[30]

- Optimal growth-distribution strategies, where growth and income (wealth) distribution are addressed simultaneously leading to broad based and inclusive growth; strategies could include those that promote agricultural growth (e.g., investments in rural infrastructure, markets, rural finance, research and extension); address adverse impacts of climate change, rapidly depleting natural resources, and competition for resources from bio-fuels; harmonize macroeconomic, trade and agricultural strategies; and create decent employment and employment security beyond skill retraining or livelihood and income-generating measures;

- Strategies that ensure participatory, equitable, nondiscriminatory, inclusive, gender equal, rules-based, transparent, accountable and responsive processes, institutions and systems needed to achieve the MDGs; and

- Strategies of mobilization and prioritization of financing to achieve MDGs, by measuring the MDG financing gap, identifying available public financing options to scale up public expenditures to achieve the MDGs, mobilizing domestic revenues through effective tax and expenditure policies, reprioritizing expenditures and ensuring expenditure efficiency, and seeking international assistance and cooperation.

[29] United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Asian Development Bank, and United Nations Development Programme. *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals in an Era of Global Uncertainty, Asia-Pacific Regional Report 2009/10,* 2010.

[30] United Nations Development Programme, *Beyond the Midpoint: Achieving thMillennium Development Goals.* 2009/10, 2010.

The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) also suggested a package of gender-responsive and human rights based strategies to achieve the MDGs;[31] indicative strategies for every goal include, among others, the following:

Goal 1: Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger:

- Make macroeconomic policies pro-poor, gender responsive and rights based (increasing government expenditures on public services (health and education) and employment creation; studying and taking into account the potential impact of financial and/or trade liberalization policies on the poor; increasing agricultural productivity through increased investment in research and development, human capital, extension services, irrigation and rural infrastructure, and changes to land tenure systems);

- Improve gender responsiveness of poverty statistics (developing and implementing a time use survey to provide data of sufficient quantity and quality for policy analysis, but does not need to be statistically representative; analyzing time use data to show differences in time use between women and men and girls and boys; between females and males in poor compared with non-poor households; and between females and males in minority and disadvantaged households compared with other households; basing decision-making on facts rather than stereotypes; analyzing data to reveal processes that cause different outcomes in education, health, nutrition and employment for females and males, particularly those in minority and disadvantaged households, that are the result of gendered poverty; conducting public information campaigns to show different patterns of time use among women and men and their implications for gender equality and empowerment; analyzing data to identify instances and forms of gender-based discrimination and discrimination against other disadvantaged women and men);

- Invest in time saving infrastructure, especially in rural areas and poor communities (investing in rural electrification or alternative sources of power; promoting more efficient, environmentally friendly and healthy sources of energy; investing in public water supply and sanitation facilities; training women to maintain public sources of water, such as wells and water pumps; providing complementary micro-credit or other income generation programs to help women use time saved to increase their incomes; investing in improved and affordable public transport, and ensuring that timetables, stopping places, and other arrangements are specifically adapted to the needs of women and girls; ensuring appropriate lighting and considering personal security for travelers);

- Increase access to paid employment, land, property, credit and other resources (revising laws to remove discrimination; implementing small business and micro-credit programs; monitoring lending practices of financial institutions to remove discriminatory and other practices that restrict access to credit; ensuring and monitoring women's participation in agricultural extension programs).

[31] United Nations Development Fund for Women, *Making the MDGs Work for All: Gender-Responsive Rights-Based Approaches to the MDGs*, 2008.

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education:

- Promote the value of education to parents and communities (using communications and media strategies to inform parents and communities of the benefits of girls' education, emphasizing the benefits most relevant to the society; holding awareness-raising workshops among communities on human rights, CEDAW and women's rights, particularly the rights of girls and boys to basic education);

- Promote economic policies that create employment opportunities for women and men with education (supporting micro-enterprise development and micro-credit schemes; encouraging successful businesswomen and men to mentor businesswomen with potential for success);

- Invest in time-saving infrastructure to reduce time girls spend on domestic work (providing free school meals and take-home rations for all children using locally produced foods);

- Provide support for girls' domestic and care responsibilities (allowing flexible school times to help girls meet their other family responsibilities without missing or dropping out of school; during school hours, providing childcare for preschool-aged siblings to enable girls to attend school and focus on learning rather than caring for younger brothers and sisters; providing sources of power so that students can study at night);

- Improve physical access to schools (investing in improved and affordable public transport; ensuring appropriate lighting and considering personal safety of all commuters and travelers; providing schools or schooling as close as possible to the location where children live; building lower secondary classrooms attached to primary schools to help meet the aims of basic education for all);

- Review educational content, curricula and teaching methods to remove gender stereotyping and ensure compliance with human rights standards (reviewing curricula, educational content, and teaching methods and materials from a human rights based perspective; promoting the development and implementation of anti-harassment, anti-bullying and anti-sexual harassment policies, programs and procedures in schools, teacher training institutions and universities; in teacher training, emphasizing positive methods of class control and ensuring that teachers are aware that physical/corporal punishment is a violation of human rights; encouraging schools and departments of education to monitor and report on cases of harassment, bullying and sexual harassment in schools, teacher training institutions and universities);

- Address barriers to schooling (eliminating discriminatory policies (e.g. requiring birth or marriage certificate); changing teachers' negative and often discriminatory attitudes and behaviors, which both reflect and reinforce community prejudices and disempower girls; providing compensatory preschool and in-school programs to help disadvantaged children catch up; providing support such as targeted stipends to overcome parents' reluctance to send children to school and cover the direct and opportunity costs of schooling);

- Achieve gender equity among teachers and head teachers at each level of education (promoting recruitment of mix of female and male teachers at all levels of education; in rural or isolated areas, making special provision for appropriate accommodation for female teachers; where necessary, providing additional training opportunities and special courses for female teachers to enable them to reach the standards required for promotion);

- Reduce direct costs of education: (providing free books and uniforms, stipends or scholarships; initiating targeted payments to parents that are conditional upon their children attending school for a minimum number of days per month and on the child's performance).

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women

- Ensure that educational outcomes lead to employment or increased incomes;
- Improve sexual and reproductive rights for women (providing quality family planning services through the national health system; providing services to prevent and treat sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, through the national health system; implementing programs to reduce malnutrition and anemia, which contribute to reproductive health problems, particularly among women living in poverty, adolescent girls and in rural areas subject to food shortages; implementing programs of sexuality education, both within and outside the health system; supporting integrated sexuality education and services for young people and adults);
- Reduce gender inequality in paid employment and business (encouraging workplaces and employers to provide paid parental leave to both fathers and mothers on the birth of a child; where uptake by fathers is low, considering providing part of the parental leave package only to men to encourage them to take advantage of this facility; encouraging workplaces and employers to treat women and men employees equally in providing special leave for those needing to care for sick children or disabled or elderly family members; encouraging workplaces and employers to allow flexible working arrangements for women and men to enable both to participate actively in family life and to improve the balance between work and family particularly for men; providing subsidies or using tax concessions and other incentives to encourage workplaces and employers to establish work-based childcare or otherwise assist their employees with their care responsibilities; helping communities establish cooperative or collective childcare, especially for women living in poverty and those in the informal sector; ensuring that women's greater need for retirement income is considered in the design of pension schemes and that gender equality is applied in terms of retirement age and other pension conditions; implementing public employment guarantee schemes for persons living in poverty, especially in rural areas; providing a basic public pension for the elderly; developing social protection schemes for workers in the informal sector to cover gaps in the public provision of health insurance, maternity allowances and disability allowances and support; developing collective approaches to provide social protection and welfare benefits to those working in the informal sector; monitoring and improving working conditions in the informal sector; supporting women's groups to organize women and girls working in the informal sector to negotiate better working conditions and provide services to members; providing micro-credit and micro-enterprise programs that specifically target the informal sector; investing in basic infrastructure, including access to safe water, electricity and sanitation, to support those working in the informal sector);
- Increase women's ownership of property and their rights to equal inheritance (removing legislative and other obstacles; ensuring that programs to issue formal land titles are sensitive to gender issues and to existing patterns of land ownership; supporting awareness raising programs to promote equal inheritance rights for women and girls; complementing women's land rights with improved access to credit, seeds, fertilizers and new technologies);
- Increase women's participation in decision-making in the public sphere at all levels: (legislating quotas of at least 30 percent for women at the local level; lobbying political parties to apply a quota of at least 30 percent for women at all levels of government; supporting gender-responsive rights-based civic education for women and men; supporting training for potential female political candidates at all levels of government based on careful study of the particular political system of the country and how male candidates go about getting elected; at all levels of government, supporting training for newly elected women and men focusing on both a gender-responsive rights-based perspective and the technical aspects of their roles as parliamentarians; providing training for women in parliament and local government on the budget and encouraging them to be active in budget committees; supporting and encouraging elected female representatives throughout their term in office, not just at the time of the election; monitoring voting patterns of male and female representatives in the parliament on issues that are particularly important to women, noting that these may not just be 'women's' or 'gender' issues but include major issues of national importance, especially economic policy; establishing mechanisms such as regular meetings between female representatives in parliament and women's groups, including those representing women living in poverty and rural women, to ensure that female members of parliament are able to understand and adequately represent the interests and concerns of women in the community; supporting female representatives in parliament to advocate for gender budgeting initiatives to ensure that commitments to women and gender equality are matched by appropriate budget allocations);
- Eliminate violence against women and girls (collecting regular data on VAW prevalence; developing hospital/health clinic protocols to identify VAW cases and deal appropriately and sensitively with cases of rape and domestic violence; establishing special police units staffed by women officers specifically trained to handle VAW cases; working with men and women's groups to raise awareness that violence against women is a crime and an abuse

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women *(continued)*

of women's human rights; improving laws and legal mechanisms such as restraining and protection orders to protect women from abusive partners, and making marital rape a crime; implementing school-based programs for boys and girls to promote respect for women and girls and to raise awareness that violence against women, including psychological violence and sexual harassment, are crimes; providing safe houses for women and girls affected by violence; providing training for all police and court officials, including judges, on violence against women and girls to ensure that violence against women is treated as a serious crime and an abuse of human rights; monitoring police and courts on cases of violence against women and ensuring public dissemination of the results in the media to raise awareness of its prevalence and the way in which the legal and judicial system are dealing with the issue; improving public infrastructure, particularly transportation systems, the location of bus stops and access points for rail stations, etc, as well as lighting in public places, in order to improve women's safety; where women must work late at night, providing special arrangements for their security and safety both at work and on their journey home);

- Eliminate violence, especially gender-based violence, against women in crisis and conflict situations (implementing special measures in conflict and crisis situations to protect women and girls from violence, including gender-based violence (e.g., providing protected areas, sensitizing police and security forces to gender-based violence, providing regular patrols by police and/or security forces and including women in police and security forces); ensuring that data are collected and used to identify women and girls in crisis and conflict situations who are at high risk of violence—including orphans, widows and disabled women and girls—and implementing special measures to protect them; undertaking gender audits of programs to distribute food, water and other supplies to assess and minimize the risks of violence to women and girls accessing the programs, for example by providing safe locations and access routes, operating during daylight and, where possible, with sufficient time for women and girls to reach safety before dark, providing lighting where they need to move after dark (for example, to access toilet facilities), and providing physical protection by police and/or security forces; consulting women and girls, particularly those in groups at high risk of violence, including gender-based violence, on their protection needs; providing appropriate counseling and support services for women and girls affected by violence, including gender-based violence, as well as for their families and communities);
- Implement gender-responsive budgeting;
- Ensure women's capacity to hold government accountable (supporting capacity-building for women's groups to enable them to use data and analysis to hold governments accountable; disseminating results of gender analysis under the MDGs to women's groups; disseminating results in formats such as charts, pictographs and summary statistics that are appropriate for non-technical audiences; consulting women's groups on interpretation of results and integrating their responses into the final reports; creating mechanisms such as public meetings, access to the media, or parliamentary committees through which women's groups and civil society can hold governments accountable for meeting MDG targets; supporting civil society groups and NGOs to use the courts to hold governments accountable for meeting established human rights, such as the right to food, particularly for women and girls);
- Ensure women's active participation in data collection: (including women, gender statistics experts and gender and poverty experts in design teams for all surveys and other forms of data collection, and in data analysis and dissemination; consulting women's groups, including those representing minorities and disadvantaged groups, in the design and development of surveys and other data collection instruments; conducting focus groups separately for women and men so that women can freely express their views and share their experiences; conducting separate sex-disaggregated focus groups for age and other socio-economic categories (e.g., minority background, caste, income level and household headship); including women, ideally not less than 40 percent and not more than 60 percent, in data collection as enumerators, supervisors, and in data entry and dissemination, and ensuring that women from minority and other disadvantaged groups are included in these roles at appropriate proportions);

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

- Disaggregate data sources on child mortality by age and sex;
- Identify and address factors that lead to higher mortality among girls or boys, where this occurs;
- Target health education and information to mothers and fathers.

Goal 5: Improve maternal health

- Reduce costs for women of accessing primary reproductive health care (removing attendance fees from clinics providing primary health care, including reproductive health services; implementing national or local health insurance schemes to help women cover other health costs; providing a midwife within a reasonable distance of at least 90 percent of the population and a health clinic staffed by qualified personnel in all centers of population; adjusting hours of operation for primary health care clinics to open at times when women are not busy with work or priority household tasks; providing training to staff in primary health clinics, hospitals and midwives on CEDAW and other human rights instruments to ensure that they are aware of women's rights to reproductive care and to treatment that respects their human dignity; monitoring quality of services provided by primary health clinics, hospitals and midwives to ensure that the care provided is culturally sensitive and respects women's human rights);
- Improve women's access to transport and communications infrastructure (providing all women with access to emergency delivery services for childbirth in isolated areas, organizing communities to monitor the health of women during the last weeks of pregnancy and preparing emergency transportation and communication with qualified obstetric services in case of a difficult delivery; where technically feasible, providing at least one mobile or radio-phone for public use at a modest charge);
- Involve men and communities in maternal health care (conducting information workshops or other events for men and communities on women's reproductive health, maternal health and importance of antenatal care and for births to be assisted by a qualified midwife; conducting information workshops or other events for men and communities on women's rights, particularly women's reproductive rights, and on men's and communities' responsibilities to help reduce maternal mortality).

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases

- Ensure appropriate share of national budget is allocated to health;
- Reduce risk factors for exposure to HIV/AIDS (information campaigns, clinics);
- Improve and protect access to treatment for HIV/AIDS (making antiretroviral therapy free of charge or heavily subsidized, and addressing indirect costs of access; recording, disseminating and analyzing data on women's and men's participation in distribution programs for antiretroviral drugs; monitoring data on women's and men's participation in distribution of antiretroviral drugs and using it to increase women's access to match their proportion of the total population with HIV/AIDS; including screening, prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections and HIV-related conditions such as cervical cancer as part of a treatment package for HIV positive women and girls);
- Eliminate discrimination and stigma against those living with HIV and tuberculosis (conducting awareness campaigns to reduce stigma and discrimination);
- Protect the rights of persons with HIV/AIDS;
- Support primary caregivers for persons with AIDS and children orphaned by AIDS (encouraging communities to provide collective support, by assisting girls in affected families continue their education and grandmothers living in poverty obtain financial support for themselves and the children they care for; working with primary caregivers, especially older women, to help them manage both their care responsibilities and earning a livelihood for the family; ensuring that girls who are primary caregivers or orphans are able to receive education to at least junior secondary level through stipends, distance learning or informal schooling; where the number of children orphaned by AIDS is large, organizing children into self-help families and communities and, as far as possible, ensuring that schooling is provided locally; providing piped water to the homes of women caring for people with HIV/AIDS—this would significantly reduce their burden due to the large amount of water required for care);

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (*continued*)

- Improve knowledge of women's reproduction and sexuality among both women and men: (developing and widely distributing through health clinics, schools and workplaces information on women's reproduction and sexuality and using radio and TV to reach illiterate women and those with low levels of education; developing and widely distributing through men's clinics, schools and workplaces information on women's reproduction and sexuality and reproductive rights that specifically seeks to inform men);
- Involve men in protection and support for women with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis or malaria: (developing programs to involve male relatives of women living with HIV/AIDS and/or tuberculosis in their support and care, stressing the benefits of successful treatment to families and the community; developing programs with male community leaders to advocate with families in their community to ensure that female family members with HIV/AIDS and/or tuberculosis receive appropriate care and treatment, emphasizing the benefits to the families and the community; analyzing causes of violence against women with these diseases, and working in communities, workplaces etc. to develop preventative measures);
- Improve timely access to treatment for malaria (reducing travel costs by ensuring that local health clinics provide appropriate treatment; developing village-based distribution systems for effective anti-malarial treatments that are supplied and monitored by the health system; providing training to identify symptoms of malaria and initiating appropriate treatment; in conjunction with this training, providing anti-malaria medication that can be administered immediately in homes).

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

- Involve women and men in environmental initiatives as active participants and decision makers (providing non-formal training at community level that provides gender-responsive rights-based knowledge on environmental management; introducing quotas for women in water management and sanitation committees, particularly at the local level; introducing quotas in staffing of environmental projects and programs; introducing quotas for female students in environment-related tertiary and vocational training courses, or providing scholarships or stipends to female students in these courses);
- Ensure that economic policies are compatible with the right to water (organizing human rights workshops on ICESCR and CEDAW for economic policy makers and senior officials from departments dealing with the environment, water and sanitation; holding workshops for women's groups and advocates on the human rights implications of economic policy, particularly in relation to privatization of public goods such as water);
- Increase access to infrastructure and services in slum areas and rural poor communities (using micro-finance to improve urban infrastructure and services; providing gender-responsive rights-based technical advisory services to community-based projects and programs).

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development

- Direct more ODA, loans and grants to gender-responsive rights-based policies and programs;
- Increase funding and support to improving gender-responsive and sex-disaggregated data;
- Encourage all members of the global partnership to report against relevant areas of Goal 8;
- Integrate a gender-responsive rights-based perspective in national monitoring of aid effectiveness;
- Build capacity for integrating a gender-responsive rights-based perspective into economic policy.

In a February 2010 report that assessed the progress of the achievement of the MDGs thus far,[32] the UN Secretary General found a "mixed picture of shortfalls and successes" and identified emerging issues and challenges that may affect the achievement of the MDGs. After reviewing the lessons learned for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the MDGs, the UN Secretary General distilled the following key success factors:

1. Effective government leadership and national ownership of development strategies;

2. Effective policies to support implementation;

3. Improved quantity, quality and focus of investments, financed both by domestic sources and international development assistance, based on a holistic approach, including smallholder agriculture, health, education, infrastructure, business development and environmental conservation;

4. Appropriate institutional capacity to deliver quality services equitably on a national scale;

5. Civil society and community involvement and empowerment;

6. Effective global partnerships with mutual accountability of all stakeholders; and

7. Good governance by donors and recipients and enhanced State and societal capacity of recipient countries to manage scaled-up resource flows transparently and with accountability.

The key success factors "underscore the imperative of a holistic approach and confirm that positive results across the Millennium Development Goals and the broader enabling environment enhance the likelihood of sustained progress towards each of the Goals. They help define our collective accountability, but must be seen holistically. The synergies among the Goals are clear and indisputable, as demonstrated in the Millennium Villages. Taking advantage of these will reduce costs, increase effectiveness and catalyse local action."

The UN Secretary General stressed: "The critical question today is how to dramatically increase the pace of change on the ground in the remaining five years, so that the promises of 2000 translate into real progress for the world's poorest people, particularly at this time of global economic downturn. In the light of the 2015 deadline, accelerating progress is essential; with barely half a decade left, much more accelerated progress is required, especially for the poorest countries." He therefore proposes the concomitant pursuit of acceleration and sustainability of progress towards the achievement of the MDGs. This, he suggests, may be undertaken by:[33]

- Scaling up implementation of proven and innovative interventions in key domains (e.g., gender, sustainable agriculture, energy, education and health) backed by targeted

[31] *Keeping the Promise: A Forward-Looking Review to Promote an Agreed Action Agenda to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015*. Report of the United Nations Secretary General. 12 February 2010. U N Doc. A/64/665.

[32] *Keeping the Promise: A Forward-Looking Review to Promote an Agreed Action Agenda to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015*. Report of the United Nations Secretary General. 12 February 2010. U N Doc. A/64/665.

investment, informed community participation, and adequate institutional capacities to effectively mobilize and manage financial resources and deliver public services;

- Building structural and economic foundations to support and sustain progress and mitigate risks of reversal "through effective social and economic policies and institutions grounded in universal rights and supportive of structural changes and social cohesion, improved conditions for peace, security and good governance, public and private investments that lead to faster pro-poor growth, and effective measures to ensure environmental sustainability;" and

- Broadening and strengthening partnerships "to ensure greater global and regional integration, a supportive international framework for trade, technology transfer and climate change mitigation and adaptation in order to sustain long-term human development; and to ensure sufficient, predictable, and well-coordinated financing for development, including national budgets, ODA, philanthropy, debt relief and new financing instruments."

The UN Secretary General suggests the following "specific acceleration efforts" for each of the MDGs:

UN Secretary General's Suggested Specific Acceleration Efforts
Poverty and hunger (Millennium Development Goal 1) ▪ Focus on bolstering agricultural productivity and output quality; ▪ To boost productivity, ensure immediate access by smallholder farmers to inputs (e.g. fertilizer, high-yield seeds, equipment, small-scale irrigation, technical extension and post-harvest storage) and introduce sustainable agricultural practices; note that "Intensive farming, if not properly regulated, can lead to the depletion of water sources, pollution by chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and a loss of biodiversity;" ▪ Increased food production must be complemented by other interventions to address inequities of access to food and to bolster nutrition; ▪ Ensure access to decent and productive employment and promote entrepreneurship; ▪ Pay close attention to the recommendations in the "Global Jobs Pact, adopted by the Governments and employers' and workers' delegates of the International Labour Organization (ILO) 183 member States. The Pact proposes a range of tested crisis-response and recovery measures that focus on employment and social protection. It is not a one-size-fits-all solution, but a portfolio of tried and tested policy options that countries can adapt to their specific needs and situation."
Education (Millennium Development Goal 2) ▪ Address infrastructure, human resource and governance constraints to strengthen national education systems; ▪ Address inequalities across income, gender and geographical, linguistic and ethnic lines when allocating resources; ▪ Address progression through the school system — retention, completion and learning achievement.

UN Secretary General's Suggested Specific Acceleration Efforts (*continued*)

Gender equality (Millennium Development Goal 3)

- Remove key barriers to girls' education;
- Generate full and productive employment and create decent work and income for those beyond school age, promote equal skills development and employment opportunities, and reduce wage gaps between women and men;
- Introduce gender-responsive social protection measures and labor laws and policies based on a life-cycle and rights-based approach;
- Introduce positive action to improve the numbers and influence of women in all political decision-making;
- Improve national-level capacity to track and report on progress, gaps and opportunities through better generation and use of sex-disaggregated data and statistics, including on time use;
- Reduce women's work burden through investment in infrastructure, labor saving technologies and gender-responsive economic stimulus packages;
- Strengthen accountability for enhancing women's rights and ending gender discrimination; scale up investments for gender equality by institutionalizing "gender-responsive budgeting" as part of public financial management reforms to ensure that financial commitments advance gender equality.

Health (Millennium Development Goals 4, 5 and 6)

- Strengthen national health systems with the active participation of civil society organizations;
- Undertake targeted interventions in key areas (e.g., immunization programs, increasing number of trained midwives and the use of insecticide-treated bed nets);
- Immediately scale up and make universal those interventions with greatest impact on health-related MDG targets (e.g., universal access to sexual and reproductive health, immunization and key child-survival interventions, HIV prevention, mitigation and treatment, prevention and treatment of neglected tropical diseases, prevention and treatment services for malaria and tuberculosis and low-cost access to safe water and sanitation);
- Scale up global financing in predictable ways;
- Prioritize specific regions and vulnerable groups;
- Strengthen the capacity of all stakeholders to address issues of gender equality and delivery of health services and promote partnerships with civil society organizations, including women's groups, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Promoting sustainable development (Millennium Development Goal 7)

- Adopt the principle of environmental sustainability and adapt it to national priorities and policies, the local context and sub-national or ecosystem specificities;
- Adopt comprehensive and coherent development planning framework, including national sustainable development strategies to integrate all aspects related to environmental sustainability;
- Promote alternative renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies, undertake policy reforms to substantially reduce perverse subsidies for carbon-intensive development, and to create positive incentives, appropriate taxes and other initiatives to encourage the adoption of renewable energy sources and low-emission technologies;
- Greatly expand investment in sustainable ecosystem management biodiversity protection measures that respect indigenous peoples' traditional rights to marine- and forest-based livelihoods;
- Adopt national action plans and increase investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy;
- Provide safe drinking water and sanitation with considerable political will with significant financial, technical and human resources;
- Adopt integrated national water strategies addressing four main uses of fresh water (agriculture, households, industry and ecosystem services) that respond to growing water shortages, exacerbated by climate change;
- Adopt sound urban planning, more balanced growth, including rural development to reduce the slum populations.

UN Secretary General's Suggested Specific Acceleration Efforts *(continued)*

Expanding and strengthening international partnerships (Millennium Development Goal 8)

- Improve the quantity, quality, predictability and durability of official development assistance;
- Accelerate progress in multilateral trade negotiations to achieve effective market access for agricultural, manufactured and service exports, particularly in sectors and modes of supply of interest to the developing countries, including modes 1 (cross-border supply) and 4 (movement of natural persons), and removal of trade distorting agricultural subsidies;
- Strengthen aid for trade to help least developed countries, which continue to experience difficulties in fully utilizing preferential schemes and in overcoming supply-side constraints;
- Donors must substantially increase technical, financial and political support for aid for trade and the Enhanced Integrated Framework initiative;
- Maintain open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system;
- Consider measures such as additional concessional financing, standstills on debt obligations, debt relief and debt restructuring to help countries facing severe financial distress as a consequence of the crisis to avoid harsh domestic adjustments jeopardizing the achievement of the MDGs and avoid public indebtedness reaching unsustainable levels;
- Enlarge access to affordable essential medicines;
- Reduce the technology gap that may lead to innovative and low-cost development solutions;
- Strengthen public-private partnerships, to close the large gaps that remain in access and affordability across countries and income groups to new technologies;
- Address challenges of climate change by increasing investments in research, development and deployment of technologies in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Finally, the UN Secretary General set forth the "guiding principles for an action agenda" to achieve the MDGs:

> "National ownership and leadership complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies that align with national priorities and respect national sovereignty are essential.
>
> "The interdependence of human rights, gender equality, governance, development and peace and security must be recognized to attain success and sustainability.
>
> "The need to look at the Millennium Development Goals through a gender lens is critical, since women and girls typically face the greatest burdens of extreme poverty, hunger and disease. All of the action areas need to include specific strategies for tackling challenges faced by girls and women. On top of this, critical actions are needed to focus on overarching priorities for gender equality, including challenges of women's political representation and the intolerable ongoing epidemic of violence against women.
>
> "The norms and values embedded in the Millennium Declaration and international human rights instruments must continue to provide the foundation for engagement, in particular the key human rights principles of non-discrimination, meaningful participation and accountability.
>
> "The need to empower the poor through scaled-up efforts focused on citizen monitoring of Millennium Development Goal delivery, capacity-building and improving access to financial and legal services remains crucial."

Developing Strategies to Realize Human Rights: OHCHR's Process Guidelines[34]

OHCHR (2003) recommended five process guidelines for the formulation of poverty reduction strategies:

Guideline 1: Identify those living in poverty. Identify the attributes that constitute poverty and identify the population groups that possess those attributes.

The attributes of poverty consist of what the OHCHR calls "capability failures" resulting from the non-fulfillment of human rights. OHCHR suggested a set of basic capabilities (being adequately nourished, avoiding preventable morbidity and premature mortality, being adequately sheltered, having basic education, being able to ensure security of the person, having equitable access to justice, being able to appear in public without shame, being able to earn a livelihood, and taking part in the life of a community) and recommended that, through a participatory process, states should ascertain "which capabilities its people consider basic enough for their failure to constitute poverty."

After identifying basic capabilities, OHCHR suggests identifying the population groups that suffer from inadequate achievement of these basic capabilities and then designing innovative mechanisms using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to identify persons living in poverty. OHCHR emphasizes that identifying those living in poverty is not merely arriving at a number, proportion or percentage, but is knowing who persons living in poverty are, where they are located, whether they are young, adult or elderly, whether they are employed or not, what their ethnicity and gender are, etc. OHCHR also stresses the importance of identifying those among persons living in poverty who are particularly disadvantaged (e.g. women) and vulnerable (e.g., persons with HIV/AIDs).

Guideline 2. Expressly identify the country's national and international human rights framework to enhance the strategy's effectiveness and align it to the requirements of human rights. The national and international human rights framework acts as the normative foundation for poverty reduction strategies and can be gleaned from national human rights law and practice (e.g. Constitution, domestic laws, human rights case law), international and regional human rights instruments and treaties, and human rights commitments entered into at world conferences. OHCHR recommends: basic human rights training for all involved in formulating and implementing poverty reduction strategies; appointment of individuals with specific responsibility to ensure that human rights commitments are taken into account throughout the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction strategies; and design and application of processes to ensure that human rights commitments receive due attention in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction strategies.

[34] United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, *Draft Guidelines: A Human Rights Approach to Poverty Reduction Strategies*, 2002.

Guideline 3. Ensure equality and nondiscrimination. Special measures may need to be adopted to afford equal and effective protection against discrimination. OHCHR recognized that inequalities and discrimination take on various forms, including explicit legal inequalities, deeply rooted social distinctions and exclusions, and policies of indirect discrimination. It thus becomes important to look into the effects of laws and policies rather than their intent.

OHCHR noted that not every distinction constitutes discrimination, especially if these are based on reasonable and objective criteria. Nonetheless, OHCHR stresses that a distinction that was "originally considered reasonable might become discriminatory over time because of changing social values within a given society."

Guideline 4. Progressively realize human rights and set human rights indicators, targets and benchmarks. OHCHR recognized the deep-seated nature of poverty, which realistically cannot be eradicated immediately. Progressively realizing human rights allows flexibility in two respects: there is no time limit and priorities over which rights to address at certain points in time may be set. To avoid confusion and misunderstanding over the notion of progressive realization, OHCHR prescribed the following conditions:

A. In relation to the *time dimension of progressive realization*:

1. States must acknowledge the possibility of making rapid progress to realize many human rights despite existing resource constraints, since the obligation to respect human rights requires political will rather than economic resources, while the obligations to protect and fulfill human rights may be performed by improving the efficiency of resource use;

2. States must immediately begin to take steps to realize human rights and to implement these steps within specific time periods;

3. These steps must include a series of intermediate, preferably annual, targets.

4. As a prerequisite to setting targets, States must identify indicators for every target, to measure whether the target has been met; indicators must be disaggregated for each subgroup of the population living in poverty.

B. In relation to *prioritization of human rights*:

1. The *process* of setting priorities must involve the effective participation of all claimholders, duty bearers and other actors, to enable all segments of society, especially those living in poverty, to express their value judgments on the priorities. Institutional mechanisms need to be designed and implemented to enable fair and equitable reconciliation of potentially conflicting value judgments.

2. The *substance* of prioritization must be guided by the following principles:

   a. No human right can be given precedence over others on the ground of intrinsic merit, but different rights can be given priority at different stages of progressive realization on practical grounds.

   b. No human right can be deliberately allowed to suffer an absolute decline in its level of realization; even as more resources are allocated to the rights accorded priority at any given time, other human rights must maintain at least their initial level of realization.

   c. Core obligations must be met despite resource constraints, and no trade-offs are permitted with regard to core obligations.

Guideline 5. Ensure participation and empowerment through country-driven and country-owned processes, with the active and informed participation of those living in poverty. OHCHR interprets country ownership as broader than ownership by government; country ownership of a poverty reduction strategy is ownership by all claimholders, especially persons living in poverty, duty bearers and other actors.

Developing Strategies to Realize Human Rights: Moser and Norton's Entry Point Checklist[35]

Moser and Norton recognize that entry points for development interventions vary according to different political and administrative circumstances and constraints, actors involved and country context. The authors caution against a "one size fits all" approach, since this is not likely to be applicable across all countries and urge development planners to rigorously analyze the context within which they are to develop strategies, programs, projects or actions. Nonetheless, for guidance the authors proposed a checklist that outlines operational entry points for livelihood rights, classified according to levels of intervention.

[35] Caroline Moser and Andy Norton, *To Claim Our Rights: Livelihood Security, Human Rights and Sustainable Development*, 2001.

Moser and Norton's Entry Points Checklist		
Level	**Operational Entry Points and Instruments**	**Arenas for Action**
Global Inter-governmental	UN processes; Global trade agreements (WTO, etc.); global environmental agreements; international financial architecture	Endorsement of livelihood rights of persons living in poverty in agreements relating to global environmental, economic and social governance Monitoring systems for livelihood rights
Regional Inter-governmental	Regional human rights processes; regional trade and economic agreements; regional conflict handling and prevention mechanisms	Regional human rights monitoring and legal processes Inclusion of rights/livelihood concerns in regional political, social, environmental and economic governance processes
Global and regional civil society	Direct support to international networks for livelihood rights of persons living in poverty, social groups	Enhancement of the capacity for cross-country organization on specific issues (e.g. home workers' rights)
National policy dialogue	Macro-policy dialogue in economic social, political and environmental sphere	National policy priorities and intra-sectoral budget allocations Regulatory frameworks for key areas for livelihoods (land, informal sector, financial sector, labor standards, etc.) National governance public sector reform, decentralization, etc.; regulation of civil society organizations and social mobilization; policies on disclosure, openness and transparency of budget and policy processes
	Sector policy dialogue	Sector policy priorities and intra-sectoral budget allocations Service delivery standards and entitlements and monitoring of fulfillment of these Regulatory processes at sector level (e.g. forest department's regulation of access to reserves) Sector governance openness and transparency of policy process; engagement of primary stakeholders in policy process
	Public sector	Capacity building and direct project support to key activities and sectors Policy development and piloting of change (e.g. land regulation) Monitoring of fulfillment of livelihood rights Accessible justice Dissemination of information relating to rights and
National and sub-national project or programme support	Civil society	Support to agencies supporting rights for those living in poverty through advocacy, capacity building, social mobilization, direct support (e.g. micro credit)

Moser and Norton stress: "The originality of a rights perspective is that it highlights the linkages between different arenas. In addressing the rich and diverse range of options for action … development actors will need to make choices – where to put their efforts, whose claims to support and how to support them. In making these decisions a rights analysis will help, however, the entry point checklist … will not provide a complete answer on its own." The checklist may, however, inform the development of strategies consistent with human rights.

Save the Children's "Three Pillars" Strategies[36]

Save the Children (2002) adopts and implements strategies that increase accountability and advance the overall fulfillment of children's rights. Save the Children's strategies are anchored on "three pillars," which represent the areas for intervention: (a) practical actions to directly address violations (such as separation of children in conflict, commercial sexual exploitation, child labor, etc.) and gaps in the provision of goods or services or in child participation; (b) strengthening the legislative, political, administrative and community infrastructure to overcome constraints in the promotion and protection of children's rights, ensure accountability and monitor progress in child rights; and (c) building a broad constituency of support and commitment to children's rights within society.

These strategies are complementary and mutually reinforcing "pillars" of child rights programming. Save the Children argues that, to effectively promote children's rights, programs must not only provide services but also ensure child-friendly, child-sensitive and child-protective policies and policy implementation. Across all pillars, Save the Children applies common approaches, such as research, communication, public education, advocacy, training and capacity building, monitoring and evaluation. These common approaches strengthen the linkages between and among the pillars.

Reviewing Strategies in the Context of Human Rights

It is difficult to compare, and then realign, strategies borne of approaches other than the human rights based approach: strategies would most likely have applied different philosophical and operational frameworks and thus would most likely have been based on a different kind of assessment and pursue goals, targets, indicators, benchmarks, programs, projects or actions using different processes.

Reviewing strategies from the perspective of human rights, however, is an important aspect of the human rights based approach. Applying the human rights based approach is not a simple task of changing language and using human rights terminology, although this may be helpful; rather the human rights based approach involves the use of human rights norms, standards and principles (*see* Part I, Part II, Chapters 1 to 4) to review both the substance of the strategy as well as the process by which the strategy was devised.

[36] International Save the Children Alliance, *Child Rights Programming: How to Apply Rights Based Approaches in Programming,* 2002.

Key questions of strategy review in the context of human rights include: Does the strategy realize human rights? Does the strategy realize the equal right(s) of women and men? Does the strategy address the normative elements inherent in the right(s) to be realized? What is the strategy's actual or potential impact on claimholders? Does the strategy reinforce duty bearer discharge of human rights obligations? Are these strategies of inclusion, equality, empowerment and accountability? Was the strategy adopted in a manner and based on the processes required by the PANTHER principles?

The following Human Rights Quick Guides may facilitate the review of strategies in the context of human rights:

- In Part II, Chapter 1:
    - Table 1, *Constitutional Parameters of National Development Planning;*
    - Table 3, *Human Rights Parameters of National Development Planning;*
    - Flowchart 1, *Restrictions and Limitations Resulting from Planning Decisions.*
- In Part II, Chapter 2:
    - Flowchart 2, *Assessing Development Plans, Strategies, Programs, Projects and Actions in Relation to Normative Elements of Human Rights;*
    - Diagram 1, *The Right to Adequate Food;*
    - Diagram 2, *The Right to Water*;
    - Diagram 3, *The Right to Education*;
    - Diagram 4, *The Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health*;
    - Diagram 5, *The Right to Work*;
    - Diagram 6, *The Right to Social Security*;
    - Diagram 7, *The Right to Adequate Housing.*
- In Part III, Chapter 3:
    - Table 4, *Examples of Obligations of Conduct and of Result;*
    - Table 5, *Examples of Core Obligations;*
    - Table 6*, Examples of Human Rights Compliant and Non-Human Rights Compliant Strategies, Programs, Projects or Actions;*
    - Figure 4, *Obligations Arising from the Right to Adequate Food*;
    - Figure 5, *Obligations Arising from the Right to Water;*
    - Figure 6, *Obligations Arising from the Right to Education;*
    - Figure 7, *Obligations Arising from the Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health;*
    - Figure 8, *Obligations Arising from the Right to Work;*
    - Figure 9, *Obligations Arising from the Right to Social Security;*
    - Figure 10, *Obligations Arising from the Right to Adequate Housing;*
    - Checklist 1, *Compliance with Human Rights Obligation of Progressive Realization;*
    - Checklist 2, *Compliance with Human Rights Core Obligations;*
    - Checklist 3, *Compliance with Human Rights Obligation of Equality;*

- Checklist 4, *Compliance with Human Rights Obligation of Nondiscrimination;*
- Checklist 5, *Compliance with Human Rights Obligation of International Cooperation and Assistance;*
- Checklist 6, *Compliance with Human Rights Respect-Bound Obligations;*
- Checklist 7, *Compliance with Human Rights Protection-Bound Obligations;*
- Checklist 8, *Compliance with Human Rights Fulfillment-Bound Obligations.*

Balakrishnan, Elson and Patel's Macroeconomic Strategy Review Framework[37]

A group of progressive economists and human rights advocates came together to explore the implications of macro-economic policies on economic and social rights. They audited selected economic policies from the United States and Mexico for compliance with human rights obligations. They examined how policy was conducted and whether it "consisted of action 'reasonably calculated to realize the enjoyment of a particular right,' selecting rights which might reasonably be thought to have a strong relation to the policy instrument." They based their analysis on both quantitative indicators and a qualitative examination of relevant legislation and policy processes.

The analysis focused on (a) public expenditures, (b) taxation, (c) fiscal and monetary policy, (d) trade policy, and (e) regulatory policy relating to pensions. For every economic policy instrument, the authors proposed human rights guiding standards as well as questions and indicators that may be used to gauge compliance with obligations of progressive realization, nondiscrimination and equality, minimum core obligations of conduct and result, and adherence to the principles of accountability, participation and transparency.

[37] Radhika Balakrishnan, Diane Elson and Rajeev Patel, *Rethinking Macro Economic Strategies from a Human Rights Perspective (Why MES with Human Rights II),* 2009.

Balakrishnan, Elson and Patel's Macro Economic Strategy Review Framework: Public Expenditure		
Proposed Standards	**Guiding Questions**	**Indicators**
▪ Governments should not spend money in ways that violate the obligation to respect human rights; they should spend money in ways that promote and fulfill human rights.	▪ Is government managing public expenditures in a way that ensures progressive realization (and non-retrogression) of social and economic rights?	▪ Range of indicators showing level and trends in total public expenditure as a share of GDP
▪ Resource allocation and structure of entitlements must be designed to guarantee enjoyment of minimum essential levels of economic and social rights by population.	▪ Is share of total public expenditure rising or falling?	▪ Outcome data on health, education, etc.
▪ Governments have the obligation to ensure that procedures for allocating public expenditure are transparent and accountable, and include opportunities for citizens to participate in public discussion.	▪ Are different components of public expenditure changing at the same rate, or are some expanding (or contracting) faster than others?	▪Information on distribution of public expenditure by different social groups (race, ethnicity, sex, income, employment, and citizenship)
▪ Governments should make information on public expenditure available in a format that can be easily understood and relates to ultimate policy objectives.	▪ Does disproportionate spending in favor of one group result in reducing inequality?	▪ Relevant well-being indicators disaggregated by sex, race, ethnicity, income group, citizenship status
▪ Governments must have a good audit process, with legislative scrutiny.	▪ Are gaps between groups falling or rising over time?	▪ Information related to fulfillment of rights to food, housing and adequate standard of living, using indicators such as proportion of population with incomes below official poverty lines, proportion of population subject to food insecurity, and proportion of population who are homeless
▪ Public participation in decision making on public expenditure must include forums that are fully inclusive.	▪ Has government introduced benchmarks for a minimum core? How adequate are these benchmarks? ▪ Is there a legal entitlement to minimum essential level of food, clothing and housing? ▪ Are citizens able to use right to information on public expenditure?	

Balakrishnan, Elson and Patel's Macro Economic Strategy Review Framework:		
Taxation		
Proposed Standards	**Guiding Questions**	**Indicators**
▪ Governments should not raise taxes in ways that violate obligation to respect human rights; they should raise them in ways that enable fulfillment of human rights.	▪ How far is tax policy in compliance with obligation to use maximum available resources to realize economic and social rights?	▪ Trend in ratio of tax revenue to GDP over time and in comparison to other countries
▪ Governments should ensure that tax laws and collection measures do not discriminate, explicitly or implicitly, on the basis of gender, race, sexual orientation, property ownership, citizenship, and civil status.	▪ Are all social groups treated equally in the design and implementation of tax policies?	▪ Share of tax revenue generated by different taxes, e.g. direct vs. indirect taxes
▪ Governments should ensure that tax codes are transparent, tax administration is accountable, and opportunities are provided for broad participation in public discussion about appropriate tax policy.	▪ Do tax laws create incentives or disincentives for equality-promoting behavior (such as equal sharing of unpaid work and labor-force participation by household members)?	▪ Taxes on people vs. taxes on business corporations
	▪ To what degree is tax structure progressive or regressive in terms of shares of household income paid in taxes by households of the wealthy and of those living in poverty?	▪ Information on scope of consultation about, and implementation of tax law
	▪ Is tax code transparent and easy to understand or is it so complex that it is necessary to hire a specialist tax accountant or lawyer?	

Balakrishnan, Elson and Patel's Macro Economic Strategy Review Framework:		
Fiscal and Monetary Policy		
Proposed Standards	**Guiding Questions**	**Indicators**
▪ Governments are obliged to conduct monetary and fiscal policy in ways that promote progressive realization and non-retrogression of the right to work and to an adequate standard of living. This obligation suggests that states should have full employment and decent work as a policy objective, avoiding rigid rules like requirements for balanced budget each year, or a one-sided focus on inflation targeting.	▪ What laws and rules govern fiscal and monetary policy?	▪ Size of budget deficit, inflation rate, real interest rate, and changes over time
§ Fiscal policy and monetary policy should be transparent, and there should be mechanisms for participation and accountability.	▪ Do laws governing this policy allow government to conduct a counter-cyclical policy?	▪ Trends in employment, unemployment, informalization of employment, and wages
	▪ Is fiscal and monetary policy at the macro level geared to full employment and decent work?	▪ Women's unpaid work
	▪ Is there equal enjoyment of employment and decent work across all social groups in the ups and downs of the economy?	▪ Indicators on quality of employment and on how unpaid work has changed in response to fiscal and monetary policy
	▪ What are procedures for appointing Central Bankers and macro-economic advisors?	▪ Relevant indicators for work and an adequate standard of living disaggregated by race, ethnicity, sex, and age
	▪ Are there mechanisms for holding them to account for their decisions?	
	▪ How well does government comply with laws on transparency and the right to information?	
	▪ If there are mechanisms for participation and accountability, how well do these work in practice?	

Balakrishnan, Elson and Patel's Macro Economic Strategy Review Framework:		
Trade Policy		
Proposed Standards	**Guiding Questions**	**Indicators**
▪ To comply with their obligation to conduct trade policy in a non-discriminatory way, governments should conduct impact assessments to determine who will be the likely winners and losers before concluding trade agreements.	▪ Who are winners and losers in terms of employment and in terms of price changes in basic consumer goods, including food?	▪ Estimates of trade-related job creation and job loss
▪ Governments must design trade agreements and complementary policies to insure no increase in de facto discrimination against particular social groups, and insure that safeguards are built into the trade agreements (e.g. ability to reintroduce import tariffs if livelihoods of discriminated groups are threatened by import surges or subsidized imports that are sold below cost).	▪ Did groups that were already disadvantaged lose the most?	▪ Relation between trade agreements and rural employment
	▪ What happened to migration flows?	▪ Retail prices for some basic food
	▪ Are there any specific implications in terms of employment that can be seen either by sector or region?	▪ Purchasing power
		▪ Rural-urban migration
		▪ Income

Balakrishnan, Elson and Patel's Macro Economic Strategy Review Framework:		
Regulatory Policy Relating to Pensions		
Proposed Standards	**Guiding Questions**	**Indicators**
▪ Governments have the obligation to regulate the pension system in such a way as to provide an adequate standard of living in old age.	▪ How have changes in regulatory policy impacted the pension system, especially the adequacy of the system in keeping people out of poverty in old age?	▪ Incidence of poverty among the elderly
▪ The regulation of the pension system should protect and fulfill the right of women to social security on an equal basis with men, and the right of all ethnic groups on an equal basis.	▪ Do regulations provide a defined benefit pension, in which people are guaranteed a definite weekly or monthly sum of money, or a defined contribution system, in which the size of	▪ Women's labor force participation rates
▪ The regulation of the pension system should be accountable, participatory and transparent.	▪ Do women enjoy social protection in the same way as men?	▪ Retirement income disaggregated
	▪ Are there factors that disadvantage women?	
	▪ What information is provided to people about their pensions?	
	▪ Is information provided in ways that ordinary citizens can understand?	

Philippine Example of Human Rights Based Logical Framework

HRBA MODIFIED ICC LOGFRAME ICC PE FORM NO. 6			
	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	KEY ASSUMPTIONS/RISK
1. GOAL	Indicate verifiable indicators, setting specific targets	Determine other actors as sources of data, other than duty bearers and claim holders	Identify factors not within the control of duty bearers that restrict addressing HR
Link goal to specific HR and focus on the most vulnerable	Relate to human rights entitlements such as availability, accessibility and affordability		Identify factors not within the control of other actors that restrict addressing HR
2. PURPOSE			
Should contribute to the progressive realization of right(s) most at risk			
3. OUTPUTS			
Deliverables should include development of the capacity of claimholders			
4. ACTIVITIES			
Should ensure participatory, inclusive and transparent processes for DB and CH.			

At the **Integration of RBA Instruments/Materials into Development Plans, Programs and Activities,** held from May 25-28, 2010 at Subic, Zambales, NEDA sector staff modified the logical framework to incorporate the principles of the human rights based approach. They also applied the modified logical framework to a concrete project. These are presented below.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter 8, Human Rights Based Approach to Strategy Development and Review, discusses the human rights substance of development strategies to realize the equal rights of women, the rights of children, the right against descent-based discrimination and the rights to education, health, food, housing, water, work and social security, and the Millennium Development Goals, and presents human rights processes and tools that may facilitate the development and review of strategies coherent with the demands of human rights. Chapter 8 includes Human Rights Flowchart 6 (*Human Rights Based Approach to Strategy Development and Review*) and presents a Philippine example of a human rights based logical framework.