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United Nations Office for Partnerships

Report of the Secretary-General**

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly decisions 52/466 and 53/475, wherein the Secretary-General was requested to inform the Assembly, on a regular basis, about the activities of the United Nations Office for Partnerships. It supplements the information contained in the previous reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/700 and Add.1, A/54/664 and Add.1-3, A/55/763 and Corr.1, A/57/133, A/58/173, A/59/170, A/60/327, A/61/189, A/62/220, A/63/257 and A/64/91).

The United Nations Office for Partnerships serves as a gateway for public-private partnerships with the United Nations system in furtherance of the Millennium Development Goals. The Office oversees the following three areas:

(a) The United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) was established by the Secretary-General in March 1998 to serve as the interface for partnership between the United Nations system and the United Nations Foundation — the public charity responsible for administering Robert E. Turner's \$1 billion contribution in support of United Nations causes. As at 31 December 2009, the Office had programmed through UNFIP a total of over \$1.089 billion, of which \$438.5 million represents core Turner funds, and \$651.2 million (59 per cent) was generated from other partners, for 479 projects implemented by 43 United Nations entities in 124 countries.

* A/65/150.

** The present report is submitted late owing to preparations for events associated with the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals.



(b) The United Nations Democracy Fund, which was established by the Secretary-General in July 2005 to support democratization throughout the world, focuses on supporting democratic institutions, promoting human rights and ensuring the participation of all groups in democratic processes. Through the Fund, the Office has channelled approximately \$75 million to more than 270 projects in 127 countries around the world, ranging from strengthening civil society leadership skills and promoting the participation of women and youth, to media programmes allowing civil society to project its voice.

(c) Partnership Advisory Services and Outreach was established in 2006 in response to the growing demand from the United Nations system, Governments and non-State actors on how best to develop and implement public-private partnerships. In addition to its work within the United Nations system, the Office received more than 1,400 external requests for advisory services in 2009. The Office provides advice to entities, including academic institutions, companies, foundations, government agencies, media groups and civil society organizations. Investment in high-impact initiatives is encouraged by providing advice to potential partners regarding procedures and best practices; assisting in the design of programmes and projects; advising companies on the conversion of Global Compact principles into practice; helping to establish and manage global and regional networks; and promoting the Millennium Development Goals as a framework for action.

InfoPoverty

49. The United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development co-hosted a conference with the Italian organization Observatory for Cultural and Audiovisual Communication in the Mediterranean and in the World, and the United Nations Office for Partnerships. The ninth annual InfoPoverty World Conference focused on the role of ICT in supporting the Millennium Development Goals. The Office provided key inputs on public-private partnerships in the area of ICTs and how they can leverage additional resources to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

Information and Technology Corps: addressing education goals

50. The United Nations Office for Partnerships and the Information and Technology Corps signed a memorandum of understanding in which both partners will cooperate in support of Millennium Development Goal 2 on achieving universal primary education, through bridging the digital divide. The Information and Technology Corps is working closely with the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development. It is designed as a comprehensive framework focused on building capacity in developing countries, particularly in the education sector, to support the Millennium Development Goals. The main goal of the initiative is to provide hundreds of thousands of new and refurbished computers for underprivileged students in developing countries. This targets the need to improve access to information communications technology in order to advance the educational opportunities of students in developing countries.

Investor Summit on Climate Risk

51. Following the United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Copenhagen in December 2009, the United Nations Office for Partnerships, the United Nations Foundation and Ceres engaged leading institutional investors, fund managers, financial advisers and others from around the globe, representing trillions of dollars in assets. The Investor Summit, held in January 2010, explored how the rapid global shift to clean technologies and energy efficiency can stimulate economic growth, and highlighted how investors can participate in the low-carbon transition. Speakers included the Secretary-General, Al Gore, former Vice-President of the United States, Todd Stern, United States Special Envoy on Climate Change, Ted Turner, media executive and philanthropist, and Amir Dossal, Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Partnerships. The Summit underscored the critical role investors will play in driving the new clean energy economy. The Summit also featured the announcement of the 2010 Investor Statement on Catalysing Investment in a Low-Carbon Economy, which advocates strong national climate policies.

Third Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development World Forum

52. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) provides a setting for Governments to compare policy experiences, seek answers to common problems, identify good practice and coordinate domestic and international policies. Its third World Forum took place in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 27 to 30 October 2009. The 2009 theme, "Charting progress, building visions, improving life", provided an opportunity to examine the paradigm of "Progress". The panellists examined specific ways in which foundations can contribute towards the