

**Statement by Medicus Mundi International
to the 132nd Session of the Executive Board
on Agenda Item 7.1 Monitoring the achievement of
the health-related Millennium Development Goals**



Thank you Chair for the opportunity to address the distinguished members of the WHO Executive Board on behalf of Medicus Mundi International and the People's Health Movement.

While we appreciate the process and progress towards developing a health framework beyond 2015, we wish to raise the following concerns:

First of all, we wish to remind the Executive Board and Member States of the need to link the post MDGs agenda to the experience as regards existing MDGs keeping in mind their limitations and weaknesses.

One criticism of the MDGs is that they focused on ends while being silent on the means to achieve them. This has been recognized as a lost opportunity to provide guidance on how to address the root causes of poverty and the unmet need for basic health and social services. It is hoped that the post 2015 global health framework will include realistic provisions that will address the means and ends questions.

Moreover, the post MDGs agenda must work towards new approaches to national and global decision making, based on popular participation, direct democracy, solidarity, equity and development; it should not repeat the top down approach in which the MDGs were conceived, defined and implemented.

Finally, we appreciate the political recognition of the societal and economic impact of noncommunicable diseases, and the need to prioritize them in the post 2015 scenario. However, this should not be done by replacing other health priorities such as communicable diseases. Indeed it is crucial that Member States keep in mind the double burden of diseases, especially for developing and least developed countries, on the ongoing discussions about the next global health framework.

We call upon Member States to reflect on this issue while discussing the post 2015 health development framework.

Thank you!