

Addressing Crises at a Crossroads

By Rosa G. Lizarde, Feminist Task Force GCAP

The UN MDG 2010 Review Summit provides the opportunity not only to critique the progress of governments in fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), it also offers women's organizations the time to emphasize once again gender equality and the empowerment of women as essential to achieving sustainable human development and to underscore their importance as a means to achieving the MDGs.

The Feminist Task Force of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (FTF-GCAP) advocates for an integrated, holistic approach to the MDGs, with the fulfilment of women's rights and gender equality as an essential component of the eight goals, not simply one goal independent from the others.

Likewise, in the struggle for the eradication of poverty and inequality, the FTF takes an intersectional approach to achieving GCAP's other strategic goals of poverty eradication, climate justice, government accountability and global governance, equitable trade and aid, debt cancellation, and the achievement of peace and security (see www.whiteband.org).

At the UN MDG Review Summit 2010, the FTF will organize and co-sponsor a partnership event, a "Day of Dialogue on Women and the MDGs", approaching the day's discussion with an eye towards a cross-sectional approach, highlighting the multi-dimensional impact of the financial crisis on women, looking at the "mother of all crisis," maternal mortality, and discussing climate justice and environmental impacts on women.



The Feminist Task Force was established under the umbrella of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) in March, 2005 with the aim of framing poverty as women's issues and calling for "Gender Equality to End Poverty."

The results will be presented at the UN MDG Review Summit by FTF, GCAP and partner representatives at the official round tables of the Summit to be included as part of the MDG Breakthrough Plan.

Furthermore, the FTF will be mobilizing at the Stand Up and Take Action event on 19 September at the Lincoln Center in New York City, bringing the message of "gender equality to end poverty," and advocating for

an MDG Breakthrough Plan that ensures integrated approach to tackling the MDGs with a focus on the interdependence of the human rights, gender equality, environmental sustainability and peace and security.

Addressing Crises at a Crossroads: A Day of Dialogue on Women & the MDGs. September 20, 2010, 9:15am-4.15pm, The Salvation Army-International Social Justice Commission Auditorium, 221 East 52nd Street New York, New York 10022