

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

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**MESSAGE ON THE 500-DAY MARK TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE  
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
“500 DAYS OF ACTION TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD”**

**18 August 2014**

There are many fires raging around the world today -- political turmoil, bloodshed, public health emergencies and human rights abuses. But there also burns a flame of hope  
rest through  
the Millennium Development Goals.

Third: keeping our financial promises. These are difficult budgetary times. But budgets should never be balanced on the backs of .

Fourth: deepening cooperation among governments, civil society, the private sector and other networks around the world that have helped make the MDGs the most successful global anti-poverty push in history.

The challenges are daunting. Yet we have many more tools at our disposal than at the turn of the millennium -- from the expanding reach of technology to the growing understanding of what works and what does not.

Action now will save lives, build a solid foundation for sustainable development far beyond 2015 and help lay the groundwork for lasting peace and human dignity.

We have 500 days to accelerate MDG action.