

**UNITED NATIONS**

**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia**



# **Progress of the Thematic Working Group on MDGs**

**Dr. Abdallah Al Dardari**

Director, Economic Development and Globalisation Division



## **Outcome of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the TWG on MDGs on 20 July 2011:**

- Agreement that the 2013 LAS-UN report should be a critical review of the MDG process in the region and should identify gaps and cases where countries experienced retreat/regression in the attainment of MDGs.
- The relevance of the 4th LAS-UN MDGs Report 2012-2013 would be in its possible focus on a proposal/suggested plan for a policy framework for 2015 and beyond.

By means of the 4<sup>th</sup> Arab MDG Report and in accordance to its main objectives, the TWG concentrates on:

- **tracking** the attainment of the MDGs by countries,
- **identifying and analyzing the major successes and failures** in the attainment of MDGs and the main reasons for both,
- **proposing policy recommendations to** the Arab countries and the region as a whole that will accelerate the attainment of the MDGs,
- **offering practical suggestions** on what and how organizations within UN system and LAS can assist the Arab countries to accelerate the attainment of the MDGs in the Arab region.

## Option 1:

To devote the third and last part of the report to proposals and suggestions for an amended MDG framework beyond 2015. (In this case the report will not touch upon the issue of ODA).

## Option 2:

If references regarding the shortcomings of the existing MDGs framework and regarding a new one beyond 2015 are included in the second part of the report, **the third part could focus on MDG8** (Global Partnerships for Development) and discuss the challenges and implications on achieving the MDGs in the Arab region related to:

- The changing role of (some) Arab countries in international economic governance platforms
- The role of BRICs and developing countries evolving to ODA contributors
- The impact of the slow recovery in developed countries (traditionally major contributors of ODA) on the national strategies for poverty reduction and the need to identify targets and/or to reduce very shortly some specific pocket of poverty.

## Option 3:

The issue of a revised MDG framework beyond 2015 is left for a specific publication and the third part of the 4<sup>th</sup> Joint MDG report is entirely devoted to the problem of the impact of the current economic situation and changing geopolitics on ODA.

# Thank you!



For additional information, please contact:

**UNITED NATIONS – ESCWA**

P.O. Box 11-8575, Riad el-Solh,

Beirut – Lebanon

Web: <http://www.escwa.un.org/>