



October 12, 2007

Dear Friends,

MDGs Advocacy Declarations

The mission of [Young People We Care \(YPWC\)](http://www.ypwc.org) as a youth-led, non-profit organization based in Ghana which is operated by university-aged young people is to educate and inform the youth on global issues, inspire them to take action, encourage their participation in global issues, identify and build sustainable partnerships aimed at youth development, and provide young people with tools and resources for effective action.

At YPWC, we are passionate about sustainable development, the realization of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and the promotion of a culture of peace and universal human rights for all.

Our vision is to provide a 'youthful voice' that seeks to address the numerous challenges facing leaders of tomorrow by effectively using young resourceful minds to influence the course of global policy formulation and development in a consistent and harmonized manner.

As part of the STAND UP event, YPWC would like to get responses from interested people and young people or participants to the STAND UP events that will be hosted under YPWC on the following questions:

1. Why is it important to achieve the MDGs?
2. Why is a particular Goal of the MDGs important to you? For example is Goal 1 more important to you than Goal 8? Hint: You can better answer this question if you localize the MDGs to your community. Think about some challenges that you are facing in your community and how the MDGs is the best opportunity to solve this challenge.
3. What do you think are some of the best ways or practices that the Government of Ghana, world leaders, politicians, donor agencies and international institutions or organizations can adopt and work with/on to achieve the MDGs?

Responses to these questions from youth and teachers of schools or institutions are going to be compiled into a booklet that will be titled "**MDGs Advocacy Declarations...voices of young people**". This will be sent to the United Nations Headquarters and other concerned institutions for consideration.

Furthermore to make a funky book that explains and brings to life the issue of achieving the MDGs you can send in some stories, reports, poems, opinions, photographs, paintings and cartoons about some specific MDGs.

Interested people should contact or submit their declarations with their name, age, address and school or organizations to which they are affiliated to to: Young People We Care (YPWC) via email address: ypwc_2005@yahoo.com or mboampong@gmail.com

OR

by regular mail to: Young People We Care (YPWC), Box SN 369, Santasi-Kumasi, Ghana

You can also sending us a **photograph or picture of yourself**.

The deadline for the collection of declarations or responses to the above questions and requests is ***NOW* 30th November, 2007**.

This is the time to make your voice to be heard. We want to know your thoughts on how we can all help in the realization of the MDGs.

Thank you in advance for your usual co-operation. Look forward to hearing from you!

Kind Regards,



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Michael Boampong,
(Executive Director)

Ps. Below are some important notes for you:

1. **Copyright:** by sending your painting, photograph or story to Young People We Care (YPWC), you are confirming that we can print it freely in the Book described in this letter, and in any promotion directly linked to it.

2. **What are the Millennium Development Goals**

At the UN Millennium Summit in 2000,189 world leaders promised to end poverty by 2015, which translates into committing themselves to the realization of eight Goals, that is the Millennium Development Goal (MDGs).The MDGs in a numerical order are to Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, Achieve universal primary education, Promote gender equality and empower women, Reduce child mortality, Improve maternal health, Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, Ensure environmental sustainability and Develop a global partnership for development

3. **What is Stand Up and Speak Out?**

Stand Up and Speak Out is a worldwide call to make poverty history and campaign for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. On October 16-17 people will literally and symbolically stand up and speak out demanding their governments keep their promises to end extreme poverty and meet and exceed the Millennium Development Goals. Last year, more than 23 million people took part and set a new **Guinness World Record**. This year, we want you to help break this record so the message rings even louder. Every person counts!

Stand Up and Speak Out is a joint initiative of the United Nations Millennium Campaign, the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), and their national partners all over the world.

You can also check out the international website for the Stand Up Campaign www.standagainstopoverty.org

4. **HELPFUL ONLINE RESOURCES TO TRACK THE MDGs AND THE PROGRESS OF THE GOALS IN YOUR COUNTRY**

- a. United Nations Millennium Campaign: www.millenniumcampaign.org
- b. Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP): www.whiteband.org/
- c. Make Poverty History: www.makepovertyhistory.ca
- d. <http://www.millenniumcampaign.org/youth>(click on the map!)
- e. <http://www.undg.org>
- f. <http://www.undp.org/mdg/countryreports.html>
- g. <http://www.undp.org/mdg/trackingprogress.html>
- h. <http://www.un.org>
- i. <http://www.care.org>
- j. <http://www.millenniumcampaign.org>
- k. www.takingitglobal.com
- l. www.bethechange.info
- m. www.un.org/millenniumgoals
- n. www.youthactivism.com
- o. www.yptenc.org.uk/docs/environmental_facts.html
- p. www.coopamerica.org
- q. www.developmentgoals.org
- r. www.unmillenniumproject.org/html/dev_goals.shtm
- s. <http://www.millenniumcampaign.org/youth>

