



## International Year of Microcredit 2005

[www.yearofmicrocredit.org](http://www.yearofmicrocredit.org)

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Your Excellency,

Access to financial services for poor people is a powerful tool to fight poverty. The impact is greatest when poor people have access to a broad range of financial services (such as savings, credit, insurance and remittances) with which they can invest in income generating and asset building activities, and basic needs including education, health and nutrition. The ability to manage their assets helps poor people to gain control of their own future.

In light of the 2005 International Year of Microcredit, and the importance of the development of financial services for the poor to the effort to reduce global poverty, the Advisors Group of the United Nations Year of Microcredit call on you to seize the opportunity of the upcoming UN September Summit in New York to support our plea to build accessible financial services for all.

It would be a great impetus for the microfinance sector if your national or regional Summit statement would mention the importance of microfinance and would encourage the UN, World Bank, IMF and other relevant organisations to sustain momentum and increase their efforts to expand access to finance to the poor.

The Advisors Group would be most honoured to have you as supporting partner for the 2005 United Nations Year of Microcredit.

Yours sincerely,

Stanley Fischer  
Chairman