



International Year of Microcredit 2005

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United Nations International Forum to Build Inclusive Financial Sectors

7-8 November 2005, UN Headquarters, New York

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8:00 – 9:00	Registration (open throughout the day)
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Opening Ceremony</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> His Excellency Mr. Aminu Bashir Wali (Ambassador of Nigeria, Chair of the Second Committee)</p> <p><i>Welcoming Remarks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kemal Dervis (Administrator, UNDP) <p><i>Keynote Speaker:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Her Royal Highness Princess Máxima (The Netherlands) <p><i>Guest Speaker:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Paul Wolfowitz (President, The World Bank Group)
10:30 – 11:30	<p>PANEL I: Financial Sector Indicators and the Blue Book on Building Inclusive Financial Sectors</p> <p>During the past year, researchers associated with the UN International Year of Microcredit focused on two major projects: the lack of good information on access to microfinance, the extent of access, and the terms of access – the Data Project; and the obstacles which stand in the way of increased and improved access and avenues of opportunities to expand access to financial services– the Building Inclusive Financial Sectors, or “Blue Book” Project. Participants in this panel will describe the key questions and the results to date of both projects. With regard to data, the key questions are: what data do governments, the private sector, and multilateral organizations need to make good decisions, and what data do they have? How can we measure who has access to what kinds of services? What data do we have, and what data do we need to evaluate the effects of access to microfinance? The Blue Book presentation will discuss the following questions: What is meant by “building inclusive financial sectors”? What are the main findings of the Blue Book on the key question of “Why are so many bankable people unbanked? What are the issues highlighted in the consultative process, which will be presented in the publication in the first quarter of 2006? How will the Blue Book</p>

	<p>be used to help build inclusive financial sectors at the national level?</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. José-Antonio Ocampo (Under-Secretary-General for United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Richard Weingarten (Executive Secretary, UNCDF) • Ms. Asli Demirguc-Kunt (Finance Manager, The World Bank Group) • Mr. Raghuram Rajan (Economic Counselor and Director of Research, IMF)
11:30 – 13:00	<p>PANEL II: Taking Meaningful Steps to Mitigate Financial Sector Crises in Post-Disaster/Post-Conflict Countries</p> <p>Wars, political turmoil, and natural and other disasters can devastate the livelihoods of individuals and endanger the safety of financial sectors. This panel will address the potential role of microfinance in the mitigation of the impacts of disasters. Participants will discuss methods to plan for crises, the types of services that should be offered to the affected people, and how best to respond to clients' needs and demands in these specific contexts. Questions to be taken up include: What needs to be done to strengthen microfinance systems to help ensure that they can operate post-crises? What needs to be done in the wake of crises to ensure that microfinance institutions can provide clients with access to financial services in these circumstances? When should relief services be offered in parallel with or instead of microfinance?</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Robert Davies (Chief Executive Officer, The Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. In Channy, (General Manager of ACLEDA Bank Plc., Cambodia) • Dr. James D. Rogers (Governor, Central Bank of Sierra Leone) • Ms. Fatu Kanu (Microentrepreneur, Sierra Leone) • Ms. Shakila Sarajulldin (Microentrepreneur, Afghanistan) • Mr. B.S. Kusmuljono (Board Commissioner, Bank Rakyat Indonesia)
13:00 – 15:00	<p>Networking Luncheon – National Committee Awards</p>
15:00 – 16:30	<p>PANEL III: Will the International Private Sector Transform the Landscape of Microfinance?</p> <p>One of the most important developments in microfinance in the last few years has been the increased participation in the industry by the private sector, which has demonstrated that microfinance is a viable commercial business. A CGAP survey conducted in 2003 identified over 225 commercial banks and other formal financial institutions that are engaged in microfinance. Questions to be discussed in this session include: How will the entry of these new actors transform the microfinance industry? What will be the scope of their involvement? What are the opportunities for partnerships between existing microfinance institutions and the private sector, and</p>

	<p>what new types of investment vehicles, securitization, and risk management are likely to be introduced by commercial entrants to the industry?</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Matthew Bishop (Chief Business Writer, The Economist)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bo Cutter (Managing Director, Warburg Pincus) • Ms. Doris Köhn (First Vice-President, KfW Bankengruppe) • Mr. Roderick (Rory) Stear (Executive Chairman, Freeplay Energy Group) • Mr. Khalid Sheikh (Senior Vice President, Group Risk Management-Emerging Markets Analysis & Multilateral Organisations, ABN AMRO) • Mr. Israel Moreno (General Manager, PATRIMONIO HOY, an initiative of CEMEX)
16:30 – 18:00	<p>PANEL IV: Technology: Expanding the Outreach of Microfinance</p> <p>A wide range of technologies, such as ATMs, personal digital assistants and biometrics, are available to help microfinance providers improve efficiency, monitoring and supervisory capacity, increase transparency, and expand their client bases. Yet many microfinance institutions struggle to obtain access to and select the right technologies. This panel will discuss current trends in technological advances and technology implementation strategies. Key questions for the panel include: Given the wide array of technological services available, what are the latest effective innovations, and how can they be implemented? What impact will these technologies have on bringing new players into the microfinance market and extending the outreach of microfinance on a massive scale? How can they improve critical information flows within and between institutions?</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Matthew Piasecki (Chief Commercial Officer, Visa International)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Simon Willis (Global Head of eGovernment, Internet Business Solutions Group, Cisco Systems Inc.) • Mr. Vikram Akula (Founder and CEO, SKS Microfinance) • Mr. Henrik Parl (Managing Director, Eurogiro)
18:30 – 21:00	<p>Reception <i>Hosted by</i> Credit Suisse First Boston</p>

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9:00 – 10:00	<p>Registration (open throughout the day)</p>
10:00 – 11:00	<p>PANEL V: The Future of Access to Finance</p> <p>This panel will discuss the commercialization of microfinance institutions, the diversification of financial services, and the impact of technological advances. It will address the question of whether integrating microfinance into the formal financial sector will expand access to finance for poor and low-income people around the world. Questions include: How will this change the world of microfinance? Who will</p>

	<p>be the leaders in this endeavor and why? What must be done to help give more poor and low-income people access to the financial sector?</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Tom Easton (Chief Financial Correspondent, <i>The Economist</i>)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Yi Gang (Assistant Governor, People's Bank of China) • Dr. Stanley Fischer (Governor, Bank of Israel) • Dr. Arthur Vayloyan (Member of the Executive Board and Head of Private Banking Switzerland, Credit Suisse) • Sir Ronald Cohen (Chairman, Social Investment Taskforce)
11:00 – 12:00	<p>PANEL VI: Poor and Low Income Clients: Exploring Their Financial Needs</p> <p>Poor people use a wide range of financial services, including purchasing land or other assets, making home improvements, and addressing life cycle needs such as education or marriage; seasonal events such as those relating to harvest, school fees, or festivals; and emergencies such as illness, theft or natural disasters. This panel will examine the array of products and services that can help poor people make choices, take advantage of opportunities, and smooth incomes, what types of providers are necessary to serve this market, and the costs and risks associated with reaching this segment of the population.</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Jonathan Morduch (Associate Professor of Public Policy and Economics, New York University)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Robert Townsend (Charles E. Merriam Distinguished Service Professor in Economics and the College, University of Chicago) • Ms. Xu Xiaoen (Microentrepreneur, China) • Mr. Milkov Machaca (Microentrepreneur, Peru) • Mr. Fouad Abdelmoumni (Executive Director, Association Al Amana) • Mr. Andrey Vladimirovich Sharov (Director, Department of State Regulation of Economy, Ministry of Economic Development, Russia)
12:00 – 13:00	<p>PANEL VII: Africa: Growth and Access to Finance – The Final Frontier</p> <p>There is a notable lack of information about microfinance in Africa and what kinds of financial services people need. This panel will discuss what we know about the extent and distribution of microfinance in Africa, the hurdles to building inclusive financial sectors, and possible ways to improve the reach and effectiveness of microfinance institutions in Africa. Among the questions to be considered are: How can access to microfinance help address Africa's chronic poverty problems? What growth constraints does the microfinance sector face? How can governments, microfinance institutions, and the private sector work together to collect more data on the access and needs of financial services in African countries? What is the role of governments in adapting the legal and supervisory framework to facilitate</p>

	<p>development of microfinance in Africa?</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Sir Nicholas Stern, FBA (Head of UK Government Economic Service)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Charles Konan Banny (Governor, Central Bank of West African States) • Her Excellency Mrs. Maimouna Sourang Ndir (Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises, Republic of Senegal) • Mr. René Azokli (Managing Director, PADME) • Ms. Liza Troskie (Microentrepreneur, South Africa) • Mr. James Mwangi (Chief Executive, Equity Bank Ltd., Kenya)
13:00 – 15:00	Networking Luncheon
15:00 – 16:30	<p>PANEL VIII: Migration: The Changing Landscape of Banking</p> <p>In 2000, there were 175 million persons living outside of their country of birth. Massive global population movements can dramatically impact the financial sector, particularly through the desire of migrants to send remittances to their home countries. But migration also makes it difficult for people to establish credit histories. Among the questions to be discussed by this panel are: How can banks and regulators create more efficient, cost-effective means for people to move with their assets, and transfer new assets back home? How can remittances be safely channeled to create more economic opportunities for both senders and receivers? How can immigrants transfer their credit histories from location to location?</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Mr. Goanpot Asvinvichit (President and CEO, Government Savings Bank, Thailand)</p> <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Diana L. Taylor (Superintendent of Banks for the State of New York) • Dr. Luigi Zingales (Robert C. McCormack Professor of Entrepreneurship and Finance, University of Chicago) • Dr. Dilip Ratha (Senior Economist, The World Bank Group) • Mr. Ajay Banga (Co-head of the Global Consumer Group, Citigroup)
16:30 – 17:30	<p>PANEL IX: Can “Access to Finance” be a Policy Objective: Member State Delegate Statements</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> His Excellency Mr. Francis K. Butagira (Ambassador of Uganda, Chair of the Third Committee)</p> <p>During this session, Ministers and representatives of Member States will be given the opportunity to discuss the challenges faced, results accomplished, and problems remaining, in the building of more inclusive financial sectors.</p>
17:30 – 18:00	<p>Closing statement: Dr. Stanley Fischer (Governor, Bank of Israel; Chair of the Advisors Group to the International Year of Microcredit)</p>
18:30 – 22:45	<p>Evening Gala Awards Dinner</p> <p><i>“Celebrating the Unsung Heroes of Poverty Eradication”</i></p>