

## Joint Marrakech Memorandum

We the heads of the African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and World Bank, and the chairman of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, affirm our commitment to fostering a global partnership on managing for development results. We would like to thank the Government of Morocco for hosting this Second International Roundtable on Managing for Development Results in Marrakech. We also wish to thank participants from around the globe who have contributed to this Roundtable. Clearly, awareness is growing that getting better development results requires management systems and capacities that put results at the center of planning, implementation, and evaluation.

We accord the highest importance to supporting countries in strengthening their capacity to better manage for development results. Since the *International Conference on Financing for Development* in Monterrey, Mexico, in 2002, the development community has embraced a new partnership—one that calls for developing and transition countries to strengthen their commitment to policies and actions that reduce poverty and stimulate economic growth, and for developed countries to provide increased and more effective aid coupled with more coherent trade and other relevant policies. Within this global partnership, countries must take the lead in managing their development and transition processes. To steer the development process toward the goals they have defined, countries need stronger capacity for strategic planning, accountable management, statistics, monitoring, and evaluation.

We recognize that our development agencies, within their different mandates and modalities for providing country support, need to enhance their organizational focus on results. This means that we need to align cooperation programs with desired country results, define the expected contribution of our support to country outcomes, and rely on—and strengthen—countries' monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress and assess outcomes. As agencies with regional or global reach, we pledge to better distill the lessons of countries' experiences and disseminate knowledge about what gets results in different country contexts.

We are committed to fostering the global partnership that has emerged since the first *Roundtable on Managing for Results* in 2002. We acknowledge that it is only through such partnership that some of the greatest challenges in managing for results can be addressed. A global effort is needed to support countries in generating reliable and timely data to assess progress toward the Millennium Development Goals and other country goals, and to strengthen international reporting mechanisms. A global partnership is also essential to reduce the burden on countries of multiple, agency-driven reporting requirements and monitoring and evaluation systems. We encourage all agencies to join in this partnership to harmonize results reporting through country-led processes.

We are encouraged by the work that agencies and countries have undertaken, individually and collectively, to better manage for development results. Through the extensive discussions and preparations that have led to today's Roundtable, a consensus is emerging on the content and priorities for this far-reaching agenda, and on the critical next steps. It will be essential to widen the circle of this consensus, in part through regional workshops to be held in the months to come. We believe that the attached core principles and action plan can serve as an initial foundation for building a broader consensus and taking effective action in the years to come. They will be refined through further consultations, including through the Joint Venture on Managing for Development Results, and emerging experiences. We endorse these principles and action plan on this basis, and encourage all bilateral and multilateral development agencies and developing countries to embrace them as well.

Extraordinary efforts are required on the part of developing and developed countries to accelerate progress on economic growth and poverty reduction. Commitment and accountability by all partners are essential if we are to work together to achieve better development results. The challenge is enormous, but so are the potential rewards: healthy and educated children, productive youth, empowered communities, and a safer and more equitable world.

*Marrakech, Morocco*

*February 5, 2004*