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Dear colleagues,

Heads of State and Government, Ministers, economists, artists, private-sector representatives and civil society will participate in the twelfth United Nations conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD XII) to be held in Accra (Ghana) from 20-25 April, to take stock of the world economy and consider the most appropriate measures for resolving issues of concern at the beginning of the century.

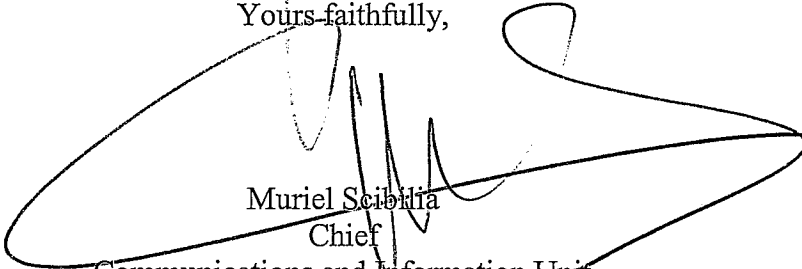
What will be the scope of the repercussions of the sub-prime mortgage crisis in the United States on the world economy and in particular on the developing world? Should a regulatory framework be established to make international financial and monetary flows more coherent? How should the trade negotiations of the Doha round be stimulated? What measures should be taken so that the advantages of globalization are more evenly distributed? How do we ensure that the emergence of the new South, every day more dynamic, does not bring about new forms of protectionism? How do we take advantage of the rise in commodity prices to bring about sustainable development? How do we feed this type of development by using the constant increase in investment flows to developing countries? Could the creative industries stimulate the development of the South?

The theme of UNCTAD XII is "addressing the opportunities and challenges of globalization for development". Its purpose is also to redefine the principal priorities of UNCTAD's work programme for the next four years. Africa also will be at the forefront of this conference.

This press kit contains 14 press releases and is available in English, French, and Spanish, in electronic version, and on paper. You will find more information on the programme of the Conference at UNCTAD's website: www.unctadxii.org. Please also have a look at our newsletter UNCTAD News No. 15 which is entirely devoted to the conference at http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/iaosmisc200721_en.pdf.

If you intend to participate in the Conference, please complete the accreditation form www.unctadxii.org/mediaaccreditation and reserve your hotel room as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,



Muriel Scibilia
Chief
Communications and Information Unit
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development