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UN University to Host G8/Developing Country Dialogue

Event: A G8/Developing Country Dialogue for the Hokkaido Summit
Theme: “Global Development Challenges: Desirable G8 Responses”
Date/Time: 1 July 2008 (Tuesday), 9:30 AM – 6:30 PM
Venue: United Nations University Headquarters, Tokyo
Organizers: United Nations University, Centre for International Governance Innovation, and G8 Research Group
Supporters: Guido Carli Association, Government of Canada, Estelle Trust, and Jackman Foundation

- Development and Africa have been identified by the Group of Eight (G8) major industrialized democracies as important topics for the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit, which will be held on 7–9 July 2008. At this summit, G8 leaders and partners from the developing world will assess and build upon the outcomes of the fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development, held in May, as well as focus also on achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the 2015 target date.
- To identify and inspire realistic ways in which the 2008 G8 Summit might contribute more strongly to facilitating global and African development, and as a means of feeding the concerns of developing countries and development institutions into the Japanese-led summit preparatory process, the United Nations University, the Centre for International Governance Innovation and the G8 Research Group will convene a one-day G8/Developing Country Dialogue on 1 July. This dialogue will assess the purposes, plans, prospects and possibilities of the upcoming G8 Summit, with particular emphasis on African development in the fields of economics, trade, health, peace and security.
- The dialogue’s morning sessions will focus on:
 - “How the G8 Works: The Summit Structure and Process” and
 - “How Well Does the G8 Deliver: Compliance with G8 Commitments”.
- The afternoon sessions will focus on:
 - “The Global Challenge of Development and Africa”,
 - “Sustaining Economic Development in Fragile and Post-Conflict Societies: What Can the G8 and Global Community Do?” and
 - “Japan’s G8 Prospects and Possibilities: The G8 Responds”.
- Speakers will include Clement Adibe (DePaul University, USA), Andrew F. Cooper (Centre for International Governance Innovation, Canada), Jenjin Zhu (Shanghai International Studies University, China), John Kirton (G8 Research Group, University of Toronto, Canada), Vesselin Popovski (UNU), Kazuo Takahashi (UNU) and Kojo Yelapaala (University of the Pacific, USA).
- Simultaneous English–Japanese translation will be provided.
- More information about this event (including a programme and public registration form) is available online at http://www.unu.edu/events/#gdc_200807.
- For those unable to attend, A G8/Developing Country Dialogue for the Hokkaido Summit will be webcast live (and archived) at <http://c3.unu.edu/unuvideo/?191>.

For more information, or to reserve a space, media representatives may contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03–5467–1311; e-mail: media@unu.edu).

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