

UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**Fifth High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development**  
**7-8 December 2011**

**Statement by Mr Kelvin Thomson MP**  
**Member of the Parliament of Australia**

**Check Against Delivery**

Mr President

Nearly ten years on from the Monterrey Consensus, the international community faces the prospect of another major economic downturn. This will reverse hard-won development gains and once again erase the hopes of hundreds of millions of their chance to escape the cruel cycle of poverty. It is a sobering reminder of the urgency of to occupy the cruel cycle of poverty. It is a sobering reminder of the urgency of institutional and policy reforms to increase financial flows for development.

We know that development requires increased aid investments. This is why Australia has doubled the size of its aid program in the two years to 2011 and we will double it again to over \$9 billion by 2015. We are one of only a few countries with an increasing aid budget.

But fostering development also requires fair policies in areas such as trade, agriculture, climate change and environment.

Mr President

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where donors should have a more active role in providing aid.

As donors must ensure the worthy steps outlined in recent initiatives, such as the G20 Action Plan for Growth and Jobs, are implemented in a timely manner. Australia has been active in advancing aspects of the G20 development agenda on growth and

... Indonesia and Italy. The measures will have for

... a new target to reduce the cost

\$15 billion per year for recipient populations, and protect the poorest in times of global

... Australia will share its expertise and experience to

... the benefits of mining in a

... also assessing up to

future.

Collectively we must pursue trade liberalisation and reform of the international financial

Member States to join Australia in providing duty-free, quota-free market access for an

... results in the WTO Doha Development Round. It is clear that the existing pathway to

global trade has reached a deadlock. Progress should be possible if we divide the Doha

agenda into manageable parts and agree on the actions needed under each of the

components.

This means increasing investments in private and public sector capabilities and transport

... We must also do more to support employment

creation in developing countries, particularly for women and young people, and

agricultural development.

Australia is also a partner to the Least Developed Countries in line with the

specific goals and needs outlined in the 2011 Istanbul Programme of Action. Our

endorsement of the New Deal for International Engagement in Fragile States in Busan

... that offer aid countries as they seek to make the

... available for development.

We will also continue to assist small island developing states as they face specific

... including through our fast start climate change financing support which

... climate finance for the future as the choice of the Transitional Committee

for the design of the new Green Climate Fund

Now is not the time for donors to pull back from our financing for development