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World leaders gather at UN for high-level debate on global issues



23 September 2010 – World leaders are gathering today at United Nations Headquarters to discuss crucial global issues at the General Assembly, a day after adopting an action plan reaffirming their commitment to accelerating efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are designed to reduce poverty and other social and economic ills.

Scores of heads of States and government will speak at the Assembly's annual General Debate in New York over the next week, addressing various global issues such as climate change, conflicts, human rights, economic development and food security.

The General Debate follows a three-day summit on the MDGs, which ended yesterday with leaders stressing that the targets – which include slashing poverty, combating disease, fighting hunger, protecting the environment and boosting education in the next five years – can be reached with strengthened international partnerships and more resources.

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