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United Nations Office for Partnerships

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly decisions [52/466](#) and [53/475](#), wherein the Secretary-General was requested to inform the Assembly, on a regular basis, about the activities of the United Nations Office for Partnerships. It supplements the information contained in the previous reports of the Secretary-General ([A/53/700](#) and Add.1, [A/54/664](#) and Add.1-3, [A/55/763](#) and Corr.1, [A/57/133](#), [A/58/173](#), [A/59/170](#), [A/60/327](#), [A/61/189](#), [A/62/220](#), [A/63/257](#), [A/64/91](#), [A/65/347](#), [A/66/188](#), and [A/67/165](#)).

The United Nations Office for Partnerships serves as a gateway for public-private partnerships with the United Nations system in furtherance of the Millennium Development Goals. The Office oversees the following areas:

(a) **United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP).** UNFIP was established in 1998 to serve as the interface between the United Nations Foundation and the United Nations system. At the end of 2012, the cumulative allocations provided by the United Nations Foundation through UNFIP to projects implemented by the United Nations system reached approximately \$1.2 billion. Of that amount, \$0.4 billion (34 per cent) represents core Turner funds and \$0.8 billion (66 per cent) was generated from other co-financing partners. The total number of United Nations projects and programmes supported through the end of 2012 by the Foundation through UNFIP stands at 534. Collectively, these projects have been implemented by 43 United Nations entities in 124 countries;

* [A/68/150](#).



(b) **United Nations Democracy Fund.** The Fund was established by the Secretary-General in July 2005 to support democratization around the world. It focuses on strengthening the voice of civil society, promoting human rights and ensuring the participation of all groups in democratic processes. Through the Fund, the Office has channelled approximately \$110 million to more than 400 projects in 150 countries around the world, ranging from strengthening civil society leadership skills and promoting the participation of women and young people, to media programmes allowing civil society to project its voice.

(c) **Partnership Advisory services and outreach.** These services were initiated in 2006 in response to the growing demand from the United Nations system, Governments and non-State actors on how best to develop and implement public-private partnerships. The Office hosts high-impact events and provides advice to potential partners regarding procedures and best practices; assists in the design of programmes and projects; helps to establish and manage global and regional networks; and promotes the Millennium Development Goals as a framework for action.

equality are economically and socially advantageous for Governments as well as businesses.

78. Built around three interactive panel discussions, the Forum allowed for in-depth and dynamic dialogues on enhancing women's financial inclusion, building enabling environments for women to thrive as entrepreneurs and creating opportunities for women to participate in commerce through inclusive and transparent supply chains.

2012 Infopoverity World Conference on “Who Drives the Digital Revolution? Development through Innovation”

(22 and 23 March 2012)

79. On 22 and 23 March, the United Nations Office for Partnerships co-hosted the Infopoverity Conference at Headquarters. The Conference is an annual flagship event led by the Observatory for Cultural and Audiovisual Communication, an Italian non-governmental organization supported by the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations, the Infopoverity Institute at the University of Oklahoma, the European Parliament Information Office and the European Commission Office in Milan, Italy.

80. The conference examined the digital divide between North and South and looked for innovative ways to bridge that divide.

Social Innovation Summit 2012

(31 May 2012)

81. The United Nations Office for Partnerships co-hosted, in partnership with Landmark Ventures, the Social Innovation Summit 2012 at Headquarters on 31 May.

82. The summit was tailored to executive leaders interested in discussing the strategies and business innovations effecting social transformation across the corporate, investment, government and non-profit sectors. Participants included hundreds of Fortune 500 corporate executives, venture investors, government leaders, emerging market investors, foundation heads and social entrepreneurs, who gathered to discuss social challenges, analyse innovative approaches and build lasting partnerships that enable them and their organizations to bring about positive social change.

Blouin Creative Leadership Summit

(20 and 21 September 2012)

83. The annual Blouin Creative Leadership Summit was held on 20 and 21 September 2012 at the Metropolitan Club in New York. Since its establishment in 2006, in a strategic partnership with the United Nations Office for Partnerships, the annual summit brings together world leaders from a wide array of disciplines. In a think tank discussion format, government and business leaders engage with directors of global agencies, leading chief executive officers, Nobel laureates, technology innovators and pioneering researchers. The summit is a platform to develop tangible solutions and build networks in order to address the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization.

84. Irina Bokova, Director General of UNESCO, delivered the keynote address. Patricia O'Brien, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, and Angela Kane,