

WORKSHOP EXERCISE SHEET

SCENARIO

You are a member of the Economic Management Team of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Economic Team is tasked with the management of Nigeria's overarching policy planning.

You are now six years from the end of 2015, by which time the world has committed that all poor countries, including Nigeria, will have achieved the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs are eight time-bound development targets that cover poverty, education, health, gender equality, and environmental sustainability. For the associated indicators, see the Nigeria indicator table.

Nigeria is not on track to achieve all the goals and requires new thinking on how the country can change its development trajectory. It is up to you to come up with policies that will steer Nigeria back on to the right track. This meeting of the Economic Management Team will last two hours and it is critical that you identify relevant policies in that time.

YOUR TASK

Mr. President has asked the Economic Management Team to give him answers to the following questions:

1. Where are we now with regards progress towards achieving the MDGs? What are the areas where we are most falling behind and to what extent?
2. What should our priorities be and why?
3. What are the key constraints to overcoming these challenges?
4. What are your top three policy recommendations and why? How will we implement them?

You are expected to answer each of these questions separately, and your report should not be more than two sides of A4 paper.

IN YOUR BRIEFCASE

The National Planning Commission has put together a few documents that they thought might be useful in your work. These are attached, and are:

- A profile of Nigeria (Source: Nigeria's MDG Report 2004)
- An introduction to the MDGs (Source: African Development Bank)
- Nigeria's progress towards the MDGs by indicator (Source: Nigeria's Mid-Point Assessment)

YOUR REPORT

You are expected to file a report with Mr. President by the end of the meeting. As stated above, this should not be longer than two sides of A4 paper. As a team, you are expected to manage your time appropriately. You may utilise and external reports you have brought with you.