



For immediate release: January 10, 2006

January 10, 2006 - Stephen Lewis, pundits, and federal candidates to debate poverty issues

December 9, 2005 - NGOs Call for Trade Justice at WTO Meeting as Officials Lower the Bar

December 9, 2005 - Activists Worldwide call for Trade Justice on White Band Day 3

December 2, 2005 - Bono Rocks Ottawa

November 24, 2005 - Election Time: Time to Focus on Poverty Says Stephen Lewis

November 14, 2005 - No Plan for World's Poor: Economic and Fiscal Update Ignores Poverty Issues

November 14, 2005 - Barenaked Ladies Lead Charge: Make Poverty History Targets WTO

October 13, 2005 - Make Poverty History Day of Action to End Child Poverty in Canada

September 26, 2005 - World Bank, International Monetary Fund write off some debts: Debt cancellation too late, for too few, but at last, not too little

September 16, 2005 - Prime Minister Fails to Announce a Canadian Plan for More and Better Aid

September 14, 2005 - Dashed hopes and squandered opportunities: Summit commitments on tackling poverty fall seriously short

September 10, 2005 - International Day of Action to Help Make Poverty History

September 9, 2005 - Recording Industry, Music Artists and Make Poverty History Unveil All-Canadian 'Click' Ads

September 8, 2005 - Canadians Call on Prime Minister to Announce More and Better Aid at United Nations Summit

August 31, 2005 - Poverty may be off

### **Stephen Lewis, pundits, and federal candidates to debate poverty issues**

Toronto, Ontario— Former Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations, Stephen Lewis, will participate on a panel of experts who will probe federal party representatives on their policies on foreign aid, trade, debt and child poverty on January 12 in Toronto.

Make Poverty History, a coalition of more than 200 Canadian organizations, is seeking more and better aid, debt cancellation for the world's poorest countries, trade justice, and an end to child poverty in Canada. It is asking specifically that each party make a plan for Canada to meet the internationally agreed target to spend 0.7 per cent of its Gross National Income on foreign aid by 2015.

"There is every reason in the world for every one of us, including our political leaders, to embrace the targets of the Make Poverty History Campaign. This issue needs to be raised at every candidates' meeting, in every riding, and in every possible fashion, to get Canada to embrace a schedule by which the 0.7 per cent target will be reached. Canadians want this. Our leaders should act," said Stephen Lewis.

The 600 tickets for Thursday night's debate are already sold out. The event will be broadcast nationally on CPAC on January 13 at 2:00 p.m.

The debate will feature a hard-hitting interview panel including Lewis, journalists Linda McQuaig and John Stackhouse, anti-poverty activist Josephine Grey, and will be moderated by CPAC's Ken Rockburn.

Debate participants include: Green Party deputy leader David Chernushenko, Liberal MP John McKay, Conservative candidate Theresa Rodriguez, and NDP candidate Paul Summerville.

"A child dies of poverty every three seconds. In Canada, one of the world's richest nations, one child in six is living in poverty," said Gerry Barr, co-chair of the Make Poverty History coalition. "Canadians want to know what their political representatives are prepared to do about it."

Some 280,000 Canadians have endorsed the Make Poverty History campaign since its launch in February 2005. Make Poverty History is part of an international movement with millions of supporters worldwide and campaigns in more than 70 countries.

#### **What:**

Make Poverty Election Debate: Poverty at Home and Abroad

#### **Where:**

Royal Ontario Museum, Samuel Hall-Currelly Gallery  
100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario

#### **When:**

the agenda at the United Nations Summit

July 8, 2005 - G8 progress on poverty falls short: Prime Minister Martin fails to adopt 0.7% timetable

July 8, 2005 - Make Poverty History Canada at the G8 Summit

July 2, 2005 - Live 8 Concert Set to Rock the World and Pressure World Leaders

July 1, 2005 - International Day of Action to Help Make Poverty History

June 28, 2005 - Canadians Call on Prime Minister to Act to End Global Poverty at the G8: PMO receives piles of postcards and e-mails

June 24, 2005 - Make Poverty History offers Live 8 tickets for best campaign events

June 21, 2005 - Make Poverty History Welcomes Live 8 Concert Announcement

June 15, 2005 - G8 Debt Cancellation a Major Step But G8 Leaders Still Have a Lot of Unfinished Business

June 6, 2005 - Prominent Canadians Join International Celebrities in Calling on the G8 Finance Ministers to Help Make Poverty History

April 28, 2005 - Make Poverty History launches cross-Canada celebrity ad campaign

April 28, 2005 - Vancouver church challenges all buildings to wear a big white band

April 6, 2005 - The campaign welcomes Jeffrey Sachs, UN Special Advisor on the Millennium Development Goals, to Ottawa

March 31, 2005 - Sarah McLachlan, Bono, Brad Pitt and other international celebrities star in Make Poverty History video

March 8, 2005 - By request, U2 to play Ottawa -- "Great night out" if Canadians continue to call on PM

February 23, 2005 - Goodale Budget Mixed Bag for Poor at Home and Abroad

February 11, 2005 - Campaign Launched to Make Poverty History

February 2, 2005 - G7 Finance Ministers can help Make Poverty History

Platform

Tsunami Statement: Hope amidst the Destruction

January 12

Live broadcast from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. Doors close at 6:45 p.m.

Tickets:

Sold Out (Seats for members of the media available.)

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