Dear Colleague,

I am happy to share with you a copy of the Common Country Assessment (CCA) and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) revised Guidelines together with the letter of 12 April 1999 that I have signed with the Executive Directors of UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP. This joint letter confirms the high priority given by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Development Group to the implementation of the Secretary-General’s reform proposals at the country level.

I am also pleased to inform you that the CCA and UNDAF concept and process have received the endorsement of the United Nations system as a whole. As indicated in the attached “Guidance note on the implementation of the CCA and UNDAF process” and the “Statement on the implementation of General Assembly Resolution 53/92” endorsed by ACC, the specialized agencies have reiterated their commitment to the success of this important endeavor.

The French and Spanish versions of these guidelines, as well as the CD-ROM, will be available shortly. The support resources to be made available to you and your country team, as well as the modalities for the progressive adoption of UNDAF, will be shared with you once they have been agreed to early next month.

Given the importance of these innovations for United Nations development cooperation, please arrange to share the guidelines with the relevant national authorities, whether or not a CCA or UNDAF exercise is planned for the immediate future. You may also wish to share them with other development partners in your country of assignment, including bilateral cooperation agencies and representatives of civil society as appropriate.

The CCA and UNDAF are designed to bring greater coherence, collaboration and effectiveness to the United Nations development effort at country level. I look forward to learning, therefore, how the United Nations country team, under your leadership, uses these concepts and tools to address the challenges specific to the country you serve.

With the best wishes for success to you and your country team.

Yours sincerely,

James Gustave Speth
Chair

TO ALL UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT COORDINATORS

(Please e-mail)

One United Nations Plaza, DC1-1636 • New York, NY 10017 USA • Telephone: (212) 906 5500 • Fax: (212) 906 3609 • E-mail: alan.doss@undp.org