

## Highlights of UN system work in China 2002

### *1. Overall country situation: political (leadership change), economic (HDI), social (social stability)*

2002 was marked by the preparations for and the first set of decisions on the changeover in the political leadership of the country from the third generation of leaders to a fourth and much younger generation. The change was carried out as planned, in spite of many rumours to the contrary during the months leading to the 16<sup>th</sup> Party Congress held in November. Preceding the party congress, many reports were issued in the media and in various other fora, taking stock of the reform and development achievements to date. On several occasions members of the UN country team were invited to share their views, too, in TV programmes and in interviews with the print media.

Our overall assessment is that China in particular in the last five years has accomplished an unprecedented raising of the overall level of living conditions through sustained high levels of GDP growth (8 percent in 2002). China's entry into WTO also produced the desired results, as shown by the highest level of FDI since the opening up policy was introduced, and increases in foreign trade volume. As a result the living conditions have improved throughout the country. According to the global HDI all provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions in China are now above the low level of human development, even Tibet, although it remains at the bottom of the provincial rankings. Three municipalities and three coastal provinces have reached the level of high human development. Nevertheless, substantial variations between provinces remain and disparities between social groups, men and women, rural and urban settings, the educated and less well educated are big and pose daunting challenges. Not surprisingly, local incidences of social unrest have been reported more frequently in the domestic press, and have attracted attention to both enhanced targeted interventions for the poor and economic vulnerable groups in the society, the need for pro-poor macro-economic policies and better conflict resolution mechanisms. Development trends in 2002 showed that a wider discussion and clarification on the role of the state in preserving, financing and managing public goods is urgently required. The UN system as a whole and organizations individually or in partnership with each other have addressed many of these development challenges in their operational programmes.

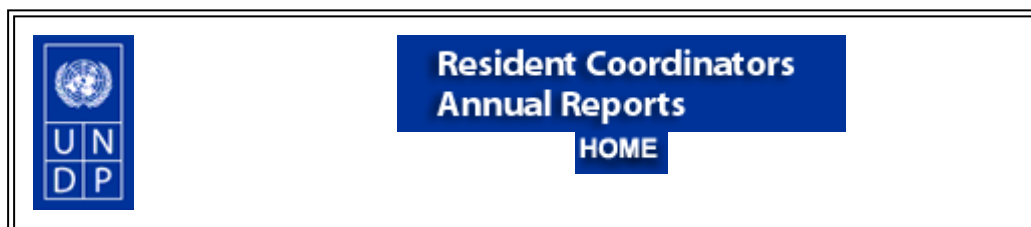
### *2. Good practice: The HIV/AIDS "Titanic" report*

The UN country team has focused its collective work in particular on issues which might threaten the above achievements. We identified as a major threat the decline in the performance of the public health system, and the continuing rise of HIV and AIDS throughout the country. The UN theme group on HIV/AIDS considered to be one of the best by UNAIDS globally, prepared for the UNCT a comprehensive assessment report of the situation, which we launched publicly in order to attract the

Chinese leadership's attention. I am pleased to report that we achieved our objective and that we have since seen a greater awareness among Chinese leaders of the situation and willingness to address it, in particular to fight discrimination and stigmatisation. Needless to say more remains to be done on this front. Equally, the link between macro-economic performance and public health will continue to occupy a prominent place in our work in 2003.

### *3. National planning, MDGs, updating of CCA and UNDAF*

China participated actively with prominent leaders in the conference in Monterey, the GA Special Session on Children and WSSD. In the lead up to the party congress national planning goals and targets were reviewed, which opened the door for us to dialogue with the government on the MDGs and their application in China. While China is currently positioned to achieve or even exceed most of the MDGs, three remain elusive at present, namely maternal mortality, sustainable development, in particular access to safe drinking water, and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS. These challenges combined with those mentioned above have been reflected in our updated CCA, and will also flow into the review of our UNDAF planned for the second quarter of 2003.



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## Results of the UN Coordination System 2002 in CHINA

Coordination objectives	Expected Results as stated in previous workplan (for 2002).	Actual Results achieved (please be specific e.g. policy changes implemented, numbers, percent/proportion of people reached, cost and resource savings, application of training).	Cooperation strategies (joint programmes, partnerships, inter-agency theme groups)	Lessons learned and good practices.
<b>Part 1</b>				
<b>Improved support to national efforts to achieve the MDGs</b>				
Joint advocacy, communication activities and campaigning	<p>1. AIDS assessment report as a UN system publication and other policy reports launched</p> <p>2. UN special days used to increase UN system activities visibility</p>	<p>1. The public launching of "HIV/AIDS: China's Titanic Peril, AIDS Situation and Needs Assessment Report" by the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS has drawn great attention of the Chinese government, international media to the significance of HIV/AIDS issue in China.</p> <p>2. The debate inspired by the report gave direction to more cross-sectoral approaches on HIV/AIDS in China, among others a multi-sectoral task force on AIDS and drug use was established. World AIDS Day was one of the highlight advocacy events with 13 parallel events in provinces reaching several millions of Chinese with the message against discrimination and stigmatisation.</p> <p>2002 was the UN Year of Cultural Heritage, Mountains, Eco-tourism. UNCT members spoke on numerous occasions to highlight the UN work in these areas.</p> <p>The UN CT members supported the preparation of the World Food Summit</p>	<p>The HIV/AIDS theme group developed a road map for an enhanced and more effective response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.</p> <p>SG during his visit to China dialogued with Chinese leaders on HIV/AIDS giving momentum to UN advocacy on the issue.</p> <p>Wide and active participation by UN organizations, bilateral donors, NGOs, private sector and the Chinese government in the UN Theme Group on HIV/AIDS and the TG on Public Health enabled the group to convey powerful and concerted advocacy messages. Strategic partnerships with</p>	<p>Due to the fact that there are numerous players in any given field in China today, UN system succeeded in enhancing coordination in its operational and advocacy activities in order to be heard.</p> <p>It is crucial to capture the right moment to advocate for specific issues and finding the right way to do so.</p> <p>UN System should pay enough attention to the management of the perceptions of both external and internal parties.</p> <p>The media meeting held by UN system served well in strengthening media contacts, raising MDG awareness, promoting learning within UN system.</p>

	<p>and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, which contributed to a greater involvement of the Government of China in the Summit. UN SG's special envoy, Jan Pronk's visit prompted Premier Zhu Rongji's participation in WSSD, where the Premier announced China's ratification of the Kyoto Protocol and its commitment to controlling the emission of pollutants by specific percentages by 2010.</p> <p>The RC and other UNCT members were interviewed on the occasion of International Women's Day, a Chinese women's magazine on a UN project on laid-off women workers and a UN study on the impact of China's WTO entry on women was launched. Later in the year the White Ribbon Campaign against domestic violence inaugurated the first male group in China in support of the campaign.</p> <p>UN System participated in the NGO Earth Day Festival on 21 April highlighting messages of the upcoming WSSD.</p> <p>Say Yes Campaign was promoted by UNICEF and other agencies, using among others the UN website 22 million signature, highest in the world, were obtained.</p> <p>Public Health continued to occupy a prominent place: a Rural Health Conference was jointly organized with the government and other donors, and the global report on "Macroeconomics and Health" introduced in a high visibility event.</p> <p>The GEF General Assembly held in Beijing gave plenty of opportunity to draw attention to environmental issues, in particular energy efficiency and biodiversity issues. China began work on operationalizing the CDM,</p>	<p>the All China Women's Federation and with the Labor Unions and the Youth League were promoted.</p> <p>Joint monitoring by all parties, bilateral, WB, UN system was carried out for national TB programme.</p> <p>Outreach to the private sector on HIV/AIDS initiated.</p> <p>GEF assembly</p>	<p>The number of media meetings can be increased from once a year to twice a year.</p> <p>It is beneficial to have participation of bilateral donors, NGOs, private sector and the Chinese government in UN Theme Groups, when advocating for specific issues.</p> <p>The visits of SG and USGs are golden opportunities to reach the highest Chinese political leaders to advocate policy issues and to draw media attention.</p>
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		with active support of several UN organizations and the WB.		
Monitoring and reporting	<p>1. Preparation of MDG report</p> <p>2. Development of poverty and gender indicators for monitoring of national programmes</p> <p>3. Monitoring of China's implementation capacity of various international conventions strengthened.</p> <p>4. CCA data base and MDG indicator integration achieved.</p>	<p>1. Through coordinated approach led by the UN TG on Poverty and Food Security, multi-dimensional poverty indicators including gender component have been developed and adopted by the State Council's Leading Group Office for Poverty Reduction under the new national Poverty Reduction Plan.</p> <p>2. UN Country Team has completed draft Millennium Development Goals (MDG) report in December 2002. The report will be submitted to the Chinese government as an input for government's own MDG report. The policy analysis and advocacy messages reflected in the MDG report will be delivered to the government as a joint UN product.</p> <p>3. UN Theme Group on Rule of Law has agreed to review 42 international conventions that China has ratified and their implementation status.</p> <p>4. The CCA task force carried out the integration exercise and trained staff from all UN organizations in the use of the CCA data.</p>	<p>1. UNDP and ADB took the lead role in directly working with the Leading Group Office and the UN TG provided the platform for donor coordination.</p> <p>2. UNCT, UN Theme Groups and the UN MDG Task Force all served to consolidate the inputs for the UN MDG report.</p> <p>3. It is a challenge how to involve other stakeholders such as the Chinese government in exercises such as review of international laws by UNTG RoL.</p>	<p>1. Disparities should be better monitored through sets of disaggregated data.</p> <p>2. Good quality database is necessary to ensure the relevance and credibility of the statements made by the UN system and to guide programming.</p>
Operational support focusing on strategic priorities outlined in the UNDAF (Please state relevant MDG and cross-cutting theme –eg human rights, gender, disaster management, peace-building and recovery).	<p>1. Planning for Human Rights provincial level workshops with three or more agencies providing resource persons.</p> <p>2. UN system coordinated response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.</p> <p>3. Targetted interventions for poverty alleviation updated.</p>	<p>1. UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCR) conducted needs assessment and the development of training materials on human rights and police workshops. Human rights education activities were implemented.</p> <p>2. The first UN joint project, Promotion of an Enabling Policy Environment and Quality Legislation for HIV/AIDS Prevention and Care was launched in 2001, and implemented in 2002. National/local level Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) was enhanced through the formulation of China's proposal to Global Fund to AIDS, TB, and Malaria (GFATM). The UN System, bilateral donors and NGOs supported the</p>	<p>1. The ratification of the Covenant on economic, social and cultural rights has greatly facilitated work in this area.</p> <p>2. All sponsors of UNAIDS participated in the joint programme, which is funded by UNAIDS Programme Acceleration Funds (PAF) and has attracted Australian and Canadian cost-sharing.</p>	<p>1. Issues raised by UN were well received. For instance, UN recommendations to promote small-scale tourism and eco-tourism in Tibet received good response from the national counterparts. ICPD, UN sponsored programme approaches on reproductive health are starting to be applied by other donors.</p> <p>UN provides a good forum for consultation on macroeconomics and health, HIV/AIDS, disaster management,</p>

		<p>Chinese government in developing a project proposal for GFATM. Out of nine experts, five came from various UN organizations. Review of existing laws on HIV/AIDS sharpened attention on prevailing discrimination and stigmatisation.</p> <p>3. Advisory board for poverty alleviation, poverty and HIV/AIDS, microfinance, WTO entry and multisectoral poverty response was convened with excellent reaction by the government. In particular, a review of health financing best practices, the role of private medical practice for the overall public health system was conducted and support for Hepatitis B vaccination stepped up. Gender training needs assessment by UNTG gender was carried out. Disaster management team, monitored the status of natural disasters and informed potential donors through presentations by MOC officials twice during the year, avoiding overreaction and targeted appeals for assistance. The setting up of a National "Education for All" Forum was initiated.</p> <p>The Government's Tibet White Paper in overcoming cultural disparities was reviewed with the author and the first ever conference on Development cooperation in Tibet was organized by the UN system in June.</p> <p>An internal paper on social unrest in China was commissioned by the UNCT and discussed for further advocacy and programming work in 2003.</p>		<p>microfinance for poverty alleviation, human-centered development. UN system is especially accepted as a convener on sensitive issues, for instance, development in Tibet and HIV/AIDS.</p>
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**Part 2**

**Improved country level coordination in:**

<p>Harmonization of UN programme cycles</p>	<p>Programmes for the period 2001 - 2005 aligned with UNDAF.</p>	<p>The four funds and programmes UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP have harmonised their respective programming cycles and are currently programming for the period</p>	<p>HIV/AIDS was the first and most successful joint programme. Many partnerships were formed with regard to specific</p>	<p>The rapid development in China has forced the UN system and the ODA partners to pull together more than before in</p>
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		2001 – 2005 in parallel with the formulation of the UNDAF strategy. Other programmes of the specialised agencies, offices and programmes cover a shorter period of time (one or two years). Each UN agency reflected the goals and objectives of the UNDAF strategy within their own programmes, and are expected to share their programmes with the UNCT as a means to explore possibilities for greater cooperation.	issues as listed above. 8 theme groups worked proactively on the updating of the CCA. Many partnerships with bilateral donors, NGOs and academic institutions were established.	order to enhance cohesion and impact of our programmes.
Linkages between UN instruments and national planning processes, including PRSPs, and UNCT support to them.	Programmes aligned with 10th Five Year plan and sectoral plans.	Approved programmes are in line with China's goals and targets of national five year plan 2001-2005. UN instruments such as CCA and UNDAF are formulated in close consultation with the Chinese government through the government "mirror team".	The government "mirror team" of UNCT has been instrumental in engaging the Chinese government in a dialogue with UN for both policy and operational issues.	The interface between the RC system and the government has not yet fully matured, however, encouraging results have been achieved.
Preparation of CCA	1. Update the China CCA of June 2000	1. The initial China CCA was updated by the UN Theme Groups under the guidance of the UN Country Team. This exercise will be completed as planned in the first quarter of 2003. Strong commitment and active participation of all UN agencies in the updating exercise was a significant sign of improved UN collaboration. The updated CCA reflects the fast changing development scene in China and advocates for strategic issues to be taken up by the UN system.  2. The data in the CCA database was updated in November 2002. A training workshop was conducted on the utilization of the CCA database. The training was attended by 23 UN staff. As a consequence, the CCA database is starting to be used as a monitoring tool by UN staff.	1. Bilateral, NGOs, the government were involved in the updating process via the UN theme groups.	It took several years for the UN system to be fully on board with the CCA exercise.  As a result the CCA can be used more effectively for joint advocacy and joint programming, thus enhancing the impact of the product.  CCA and updated CCA were useful for programming, to have perspectives on the country situations and to learn the right wording (UNFPA comment)  Line ministries should be more involved, line ministries could play larger roles in UNTGs.  Important to engage the government in strategic planning
Preparation of UNDAF	UNDAF progress reviewed between UNCT and Government	As agreed in the approved UNDAF of October 2000, a mid-term review will be carried out in early 2003. The TORs for the review were agreed upon by the	The government mirror team of UNCT has been instrumental in engaging the Chinese	As in the past the CCA update process facilitated the formulation of the TORs for the UNDAF mid-term

	mirror team.	UNCT and the govt. and international and national consultants selected.	government in dialogue with UN for both policy and operational issues.	review.
<b>Increasingly collaborative, efficient and cost-effective coordination</b>				
Common Premises	Continue to harmonize UN procedures, facilities and services	UNCT meetings and Admin Officer meetings were held monthly. One joint meeting between UNCT and AO Meeting was held in Nov to discuss UN security Plan.  MOSS compliance throughout the system achieved and security training for several staff groups organized.  2. smoke free building UN compound, FAO, UNIDO, WHO buildings, tobacco free initiatives supported UN system learning and training on HIV/AIDS conducted.	extensive use of electronic means active use of UN conference room facilities	UN House Meetings can be used more effectively to discuss substantive issues and assessment of development issues.
Common Services (please include service provider and users, and specific cost/resource savings for each)	see above	see above	see above	see above
Harmonization/simplification measures eg personnel policies; programme preparation and implementation; financial procedures.	1. Direct recruitment of UN national staff continued. 2. Harmonization of UN procedures, facilities and services continued.	1. 82% of UNDP staff are under direct recruitment compared to 70% in 2001. Most ILO staff are under direct recruitment, and UNESCO has also contracted two staff member under the direct recruitment. UNDP DRR (O) made a briefing on direct recruitment to other UN Agencies. UNFPA has initiated conversion of the staff under the direct recruitment in 2002 and planned to convert national support staff under the direct recruitment in 2003. 2. Personnel policies, common services and maintenance of UN premises are more standardized and harmonized among UN Agencies including security arrangement and staff orientation training. 3. Upon invitation of the Designated Official, a Field Security Coordination Officer of UNSECOORD conducted a security support mission in June. A new Security Plan has been developed by the Security Management Team, which was approved by UNSECOORD.	1. In the absence of a lead national ministry on the issue of direct recruitment, negotiations and cooperation with the Diplomatic Service Bureau are crucial to advance direct recruitment and ensure cost-effective operations throughout the UN system. 2. UNSECOORD has become a stronger support mechanism for enhanced security and safety planning of UN Staff.  Understanding and support from relevant Government counterpart agencies are important factors to advance direct recruitment, UN House and security	Understanding and support from relevant Government counterpart agencies are important factors to advance direct recruitment, UN House and security enhancement are delicate tasks in a "0" phase environment.



		<p>Cooperation Strategies. UNDP usually takes a leading role in promoting direct recruitment and establishing harmonized procedures and services. Negotiations and cooperation with the Diplomatic Service Bureau are crucial to advance direct recruitment and ensure cost-effective operations. UNSECOORD has become increasingly important supporting mechanism for enhancing security and safety of UN Staff.</p> <p>Lessons learned. Understanding and support from relevant Government counterpart agencies are important factors to advance direct recruitment, UN House and security enhancement.</p>	enhancement.	
<b>Strengthened coordination capacity in UN coordination system</b>				
Staffing of RCS Support Unit	RC system support staffing to be strengthened.	Since March 2002, RCS Support unit was strengthened by additional staff, a UN Coordination Analyst and a part-time Resident Advisor, who assisted the TGs in the CCA update process. In June 2002, they both attended the RC Assistants and Advisors' workshop organized by DGO in Bangkok, which has markedly strengthened their hand in coordinating UN system activities.	2. The participation of the Chinese government in the Regional Workshop on MDGs was crucial. After the workshop, inter-ministerial MDG task force was established, which facilitates the drafting of Chinese government's MDG report.	Training for RC support staff has proven to be very beneficial.
UNCT Training	NA	NA	NA	NA
Other measures	Two UNCT retreats and UN theme group retreats to be organized.	One UNCT retreat was held in January 2002 to prepare the annual RC report and the workplan for 2003. A second retreat was held in December to review the status of the CCA update and the TORs for the UNDAF review. UN Theme Group on Health held a retreat 18-19 January 2002 to discuss and agree on a common advocacy strategy.	Given the tremendous demands on each member's time and attention, retreats have proven to be an effective measure to focus attention on RC system issues and to reflect on overall development issues and common strategies.	Breakfast and lunch meetings with visiting heads of UN agencies have helped to better understand the mandate and work of especially smaller UN agencies.

## RC ANNUAL REPORT 2002 : ANNEX

### COMPOSITION OF COUNTRY TEAM

#### Resident:

UN Resident Coordinator  
UNDP Resident Representative  
- Ms. Kerstin Leitner

UNHCR Regional Representative  
- Mr. Colin Mitchell

FAO Representative  
- Mr. Gamal M. Ahmed

UNICEF Resident Representative  
- Mr. Edwin J. Judd (until 15 Jun 2002)  
- Mr. David Parker (Officer in Charge)  
- Mr. Christian Voumard (from 9 Dec 2002)-

IBRD, Director  
Mr. YukonHuang

IMF Representative  
- Mr. Ichiro Otani

UNIDO Representative  
- Mr. Sergio Miranda-da-Cruz

ILO Director  
- Mr. Djankou Ndjonkou

UNIFEM Gender Adviser  
- Ms. Lanyan Chen

UNAIDS Country Programme Advisor  
- Dr. Emile Fox (until 3 Dec 2002)

WFP Representative  
- Mr. Douglas Broderick

UNESCO Representative  
- Mr. Yasuyuki Aoshima

WHO Representative  
- Dr. Janos Annus (until 31 May 2002)  
- Dr. Alan Schnur (Representative a.i.)  
- Dr. Henk Bekedam (from 10 Aug 2002)

UNFPA Representative  
- Ms. Siri Tellier

UNOPS Portfolio Manager  
- Mr. Gerald Gunther (until 31 Dec 2002)

#### Non-Resident:

UNDCP, Representative (Regional Centre East Asia & Pacific): Mr. Sandro Calvani

UNHCHR, Leader Geographic Teams: Mr. Gianni Magazzeni/Stephanie Kleine Albrecht

IFAD, Country Portfolio Manager (Asia & Pacific Region) : Mr. Erik Martens

#### **List of Theme Groups (*mentioning any participation of BWI or non-UN partners*)**

<b>Theme Groups</b>	<b>Chairperson Lead Agency</b>	<b>Members</b>
Basic Education & Human Resource Development	Yasuyuki Aoshima UNESCO	ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, WFP, WB
2. Environment and Energy	Kerstin Leitner, UNDP Vice-chair by Sergio Miranda-da-Cruz, UNIDO	FAO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIDO, WFP, WHO,
3. Gender	UNESCO	ILO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNIFEM, WFP, WHO, WB, FAP, Embassy of Australia and Canada, DFID, SIDA, Ford Foundation
4. Health	Henk Bekedam, WHO	UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF,

		UNIFEM, WFP, WB, AusAID, DFID, Ford Foundation, MOH
5. HIV/AIDS	Siri Tellier, UNFPA	ILO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIFEM, WFP, WHO, WB, EU, AusAID, DFID, Ford Foundation, MOH
6. Poverty Alleviation and Food Security	Gamal M. Ahmed, FAO Alternatives UNDP and WFP	FAO, ILO, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNIFEM, WFP, WHO, ADB, WB, Embassy of Australia, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, EU, DFID, GTZ, Ford Foundation
7. Rule of Law	Kerstin Leitner, UNDP Vice-chair by Anna Wang Heed, UNHCR	ILO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIFEM
8. UN Disaster Management Team	Douglas Broderick, WFP	FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, WFP, WHO, WB, Red Cross, MOCA
CCA Database Task Force	Andrew Claypole, UNICEF	UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, WFP, WHO