

Gordon Brown's Marshall Plan for Africa

HM Treasury's homepage – development issues:

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/documents/international_issues/international_development/development_index.cfm

- Tony Blair launched a **commission for Africa** in **Feb 2004** (details: <http://www.commissionforafrica.org/english/home/newsstories.html>)

- the commission issued a report on March 11th 2005

- the G8 summit in Gleneagles will use the report as the basis for their talks on the future of the African continent. (on G8 and Africa see

<http://www.g8.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1094235520151>)

- **Gordon Brown** is on this commission. He visited Africa from Jan 12 -18th 2005.

Before he set off he delivered a speech “where he outlined his vision for 2005, the year of opportunity for Africa”and proposes a **Marshall Plan for Africa:**

I believe in 2005 we have a once in a generation opportunity to deliver for our times a **modern Marshall Plan for the developing world** -- a new deal between the richest countries and the poorest countries but one in which the developing countries are not supplicants but partners. And as we advance towards the G7 Finance Minister's meeting next month and the Heads of Government meeting chaired by Tony Blair in July, our Government calls on all countries to join with us in agreeing the three essential elements of a 2005 development plan for a new deal:

first, that we take the final historic step in delivering **full debt relief** for the debt burdened countries;

second, that we deliver the first **world trade** round in history that benefits the poorest countries and ensures they have the capacity to benefit from new trade; and

third – alongside declaring timetables on **increasing development aid to 0.7 per cent of national income** – that we **implement a new international**

finance facility to offer immediate, predictable, long term aid for investment and development - building on commitments by individual governments, leveraging in additional funds from the international capital markets, raising an additional \$50 billions a year each year for the next ten years, effectively doubling aid to halve poverty. (excerpt from Gordon Brown's speech on Jan 6th 2005)