

UN-EU confce aims plight of world's poorest of poor

3rd UN meet on LDCs begins in Brussels next week

AFP, Brussels

A small army of international minds convenes here next week to tackle one of mankind's most vexing riddles: how to break the vicious socio-economic circle that holds the world's poorest countries at the bottom of the heap, and bring them into the mainstream.

The focus of the third UN Conference on LDCs (least developed countries) in 20 years are the 49 countries in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean, with a combined population of some 610 million people, living in abject poverty, the dregs of the Third World, poorest of the poor.

Commission recalled that efforts to aid LDCs date to the 1960s, but never really took hold.

"It was of course hoped that as development efforts increased, countries would one by one, graduate from the LDC group," it said.

But in that quarter-century only one - Botswana - has managed to pull itself up even to the grade level of a developing nation.

The rest, since the first UN LDC conference in 1980 and the second in 1990, both in Paris, remain in abject poverty, fraught with disease and crime, illiteracy and political turmoil, lack of education and commerce and hope.

"Ten years have gone by and the situation is still alarming," said UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan in a preconference message.

"The 600 million... struggle against abject poverty on a day-to-day basis... increasingly marginalised... not allowed to benefit from globalization," he said.

Failure to break the cycle "will be tragic, not only for these countries... but also for the rest of the world."

The LDCs, said Annan, must "build the necessary capacities... become sound (and) fully integrate themselves into the world economy."

"For the international community, the challenge is helping them achieve this goal, in the name of solidarity, common values and above all else, common interests."

Several heads of state are expected here next week, including France's Jacques Chirac, Mali's Alpha Konare, Uganda's Yoweri Museveni and Nigeria's Olusegun Obasanjo - as are Annan and Mike Moore, the director-general of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

LDC statistic compiled by the UN and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are startling by western standards. One child in six does not live past the age of five. Life expectancy is 51 years, compared with 65 in developing countries and 78 in industrialised countries.

The 610 million inhabitants of these 49 countries share less than one per cent of the world's revenue, and most live on the equivalent of about two dollars a day. At the Millennium Summit in New York last September, world leaders set a goal of halving the number of those living in poverty on the planet by 2015, and called on the richest nations to work toward that along three axes:

- freer access to world markets for LDC exports, which today constitute only 0.4 per cent of the world's total;
- re-scheduling or forgiving of 150 billion dollars in LDC debt;
- substantially increasing development aid to LDCs.



This file photo dated July 20, 2000 shows two Siemens workers checking work on mobile phones in the company's factory in Leipzig. The German electronics giant Siemens yesterday announced that it would cut 2,000 more jobs, taking the total number of reductions to 8,100. The extra job losses would come mostly in the telecommunications equipment and networks sectors, it said in a statement.

ECB surprises market with interest rate cut

AP, Frankfurt

The European Central Bank unexpectedly cut its main interest rate by a quarter percentage point Thursday to 4.5 per cent, joining a global trend of rate cuts amid tumbling stock markets and an unraveling world economy.

The cut, only the second in the ECB's two-year history, indicated the Frankfurt-based central bank is finally bowing to criticism that it was doing too little to shield Europe from a global slowdown.

Most economists had expected the ECB to stick to its "wait-and-see" policy and focus on keeping a cap on the threat of rising prices. After the ECB announcement, Europe's 12-nation euro currency immediately shot up half a cent above 89 cents to the US dollar.

With the cut, the ECB joined the US Federal Reserve and the Bank of Japan in a wave of interest rate cuts this year. The Bank of England also cut its base rate by a quarter percentage point Thursday to 5.25 per cent, its third cut this year.

Politicians and top international economists have exhorted the ECB to cut rates for countries sharing the euro. The idea: inoculate the region's economy against the slump.

But the pleas had softened somewhat after last month's summit of European and Group of Seven finance officials, where ECB officials vigorously campaigned for their monetary policy. Most economists had expected the ECB to keep rates unchanged Thursday and focus instead on capping inflation.

The two-year-old ECB, still struggling to establish its policy-making independence, does not have the broad charter of the US Federal Reserve to tackle inflation as well as economic growth. Its primary target is inflation alone, and keeping interest rates high is one way to cap spiraling prices.

Rising prices remain a nagging concern for the region. March inflation hovered at 2.6 per cent, well above the ECB's two-per cent target.

Few economists had expected the ECB to make a move Thursday. Most believed, however, that the central bank would have to cut rates by summer when many predict the effects of the US and Japanese slowdowns will begin to be felt in Europe.

EU planning new effort to ban tobacco ad

AP, Brussels

The European Union's head office is planning a new effort to ban tobacco advertising despite a court ruling last year that found it had overstepped its authority with a previous attempt, a spokeswoman said Wednesday.

EU Health Commissioner David Byrne will present a new proposal to the full Commission before August's summer break, said spokeswoman Annika Ostergren.

OPEC may up output later Oil notches higher

REUTERS, London

World oil prices notched up gains on the back of roaring gasoline futures yesterday as OPEC's president said the cartel would probably leave production steady in June but could boost output later this year.

London Brent futures ended 23 cents higher at \$28.13 a barrel while US light crude gained 76 cents to \$28.15.

OPEC President Chakib Khelil joined other cartel ministers and said the producers group would keep supplies unchanged when it decides output policy in Vienna in June, but reiterated that a production increase could be in the cards for later.

Non-OPEC Mexico's energy minister, Ernesto Martens, said he saw no current need for output to rise as world markets have sufficient supplies, reiterating similar sentiments heard earlier from OPEC members Iran and Qatar.

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority
Administration Department
222, New Eskaton Road, Dhaka-1000

No. BEPZA/Admn-17/99/ Dated: 9th May, 2001

Employment of the Local Consultant

Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority a body entrusted with development and operations of government EPZ in Bangladesh with a view to strengthening its Security Department, seeks to recruit Consultant in the following position:

a) Name of post	: Local Consultant (Security).
b) No of post	: 1 (One).
c) Tenure of employment	: 2 years.
d) Educational qualifications & experiences	: Consultant shall be retired army personnel in the rank of Major. Experience in the field of security management will be treated as added qualification.
e) Monthly remuneration	: Tk. 22,000/- (twenty-two thousand) only.
f) Age limit	: No person below the age of 33 shall be eligible to apply.
g) Place of work	: CEPZ, Chittagong.
h) Closing date of application	: 22-05-2001.

BEPZA would welcome response from Bangladeshi nationals with detailed CV, two recent passport size photographs and attested copies of certificates relating to academic/professional experience to the following address.

Secretary
Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority
222, New Eskaton Road, Dhaka-1000

GD-444

Tender Notice

Tender Notice No-50/2000-2001Eng

Sl No	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of contractor/firms	Time allowed for completion of work
1.	Renovation, Extension & Maintenance of General Hospital (Victoria) at Narayanganj (SH Repair, Re-construction & providing barbed wire fencing of boundary wall) during the year-2000-2001.	8,24,409/-	16,489/-	Special Class-I/Class-II enlisted bldg. contractors of PWD Zone, Dhaka & Class-III enlisted bldg. contractors of PWD Circle-IV, Dhaka.	60(sixty) days
2.	Place of selling & receiving tender			All offices of the Executive Engineer under PWD Circle-IV, Dhaka & PWD Eden Bldg PWD Division, Dhaka.	
3.	Last date of selling the tender				Till 16-5-2001Eng during office hours.
4.	Date of receiving & opening of the tender				Up to 12:00 Noon on 17-5-2001 Eng and will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM.
5.	Tender form will not be sold to the contractor/firms those who have no VAT registration.				
6.	The undersigned keep the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.				

Zia Uddin Ahmed
Executive Engineer
Narayanganj PWD Division,
Narayanganj

DFP-12063-7/5
G-872

বাংলাদেশ ক্ষুদ্র ও কুটির শিল্প করপোরেশন
গ্রামীণ শিল্প উন্নয়নের মাধ্যমে গ্রামীণ অর্থনীতি তেজীকরণ প্রকল্প
১২৮, মালেক ম্যানশন (৫ম তলা), মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০।

পুনঃ নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

(ক) গ্রামীণ শিল্প উন্নয়নের মাধ্যমে গ্রামীণ অর্থনীতি তেজীকরণ প্রকল্প বিসিক, ঢাকা-এর 'প্রকল্প পরিচালক' পদে লোক নিয়োগের জন্য প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিম্নলিখিত দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে।

ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম ও বর্ণনা	পদের সংখ্যা	সরাসরি নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে বয়সসীমা	সরাসরি নিয়োগের ক্ষেত্রে শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা	যে জেলার প্রার্থীরা আবেদন করিতে পারিবেন	মন্তব্য
১	১০১. প্রকল্প পরিচালক	০১	৪৫ বৎসর	যে কোন অনুমোদিত বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হতে স্নাতকোত্তর ডিগ্রি	বাংলাদেশের সকল জেলা	প্রধান কার্যালয়ের জন্য

(খ) নিম্নে বর্ণিত শর্ত পূরণ সাপেক্ষে দরখাস্ত গ্রহণ করা হইবেঃ

১০১. প্রার্থীকে সাদা কাগজে নাম, পিতার নাম, স্থায়ী ও বর্তমান ঠিকানা, নিজ জেলার নাম, জন্মতারিখ, ৩১-০৫-২০০১ইং তারিখে বয়স, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা উল্লেখপূর্বক দরখাস্তের সহিত শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সত্যায়িত সনদপত্র, প্রথম শ্রেণীর কর্মকর্তা কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত চারিত্রিক সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি, পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ৩ (তিন) কপি সত্যায়িত ছবিসহ বিজ্ঞাপন ছাপানোর ১০ (দশ) দিনের মধ্যে পরিচালক (প্রযুক্তি) বিসিক, ঢাকা বরাবরে দরখাস্ত করিতে হইবে এবং দরখাস্ত মহাব্যবস্থাপক, প্রযুক্তি বিভাগ, বিসিক, ১২৮, মালেক ম্যানশন (৫ম তলা), মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-১০০০ এই ঠিকানায় ডাকযোগে পাঠাইতে হইবে।

১০২. কোন প্রকার ঘসামাজা ছাড়া সকল শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, অভিজ্ঞতা এবং নাগরিকত্বের মূল সনদপত্রের কপি, প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তার (সীল নামসহ) কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত হইতে হইবে।

১০৩. প্রার্থী মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধার সন্তান হইলে বাংলাদেশ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সংসদের চেয়ারম্যান অথবা আহবায়কের স্বাক্ষর এবং প্রধান উপদেষ্টা কর্তৃক প্রতিপালিত সনদপত্র প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তার (সীল নাম সহ) কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত কপি প্রদান করিতে হইবে।

১০৪. প্রকল্প পরিচালক পদের জন্য ৩০০/- (তিনশত) টাকা মূল্যের পোষ্টাল অর্ডার (অফেরতযোগ্য) চেয়ারম্যান, বিসিক, ঢাকা-এর অনুকূলে দরখাস্তের সহিত দাখিল করিতে হইবে।

১০৫. আবেদনপত্রের সহিত আবেদনকারী কর্তৃক লিখিত নিজস্ব বর্তমান ঠিকানা সর্মিলিত 'x' মাপের একটি খাম সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে।

১০৬. আবেদনপত্রের যাবতীয় উপর আবেদনকৃত পদের ও নিজ জেলার নাম অবশ্যই উল্লেখ করিতে হইবে এবং অসম্পূর্ণ দরখাস্ত ও নির্ধারিত তারিখের পর কোন দরখাস্ত বিবেচনা করা হইবে না।

১০৭. চাকরিত প্রার্থীদের যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করিতে হইবে এবং তাদের বর্তমান পদের বেতন স্কেল পরিচালককে উল্লেখ করিতে হইবে।

মোহাম্মদ সিরাজুল ইসলাম
পরিচালক (প্রযুক্তি)

বিসিক/জরসিবি/৬/৯৯-২০০১(২৪)
ফিডি-৪৪৭

(কুটির শিল্প বাড়ান
নিজের পায়ে দাঁড়ান)

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Sonali	10/5	Krab	RML	Gypsum
OSG Alpha (Cont)3/5	10/5	Everest	Cont	L/Sin
Brave Eagle	10/5	Hal	MBL	Demolition
Tug Ocean Mercury	10/5	Sing	MBL	Items(SM-10)
Barge Labroy-160	10/5	Sing	MBL	Cont
K.Benaya(Cont)29/4	10/5	Sing	Pil(BD)	Cont
Kuo Hsing (Cont) 30/4	10/5	P.Kel	QCSL	Cont
Bay Sisters	10/5	Sing	Everett	Urea
Togo Charm	10/5	Uniship	C.Clink	(Sic-Mor)
B.Moni	11/5	Mong	SSST	Wheat
Ocean Blue (Roro/24) 3/5	11/5	P.Kel	Everett	Vehi
Jaami (Cont)2/5	11/5	Sing	Cross	Cont
Marblue	11/5	Thai	OLM	C.Clink
Diana	11/5	Krabi	OLM	Gypsum
Mama	13/5	Krabi	PSAL	C.Clink
Xpress Resolve (Cont) 3/5	14/5	RSL	Cont	L/Sing
Abuja (Cont) 3/5	14/5	RSL	Cont	L/Sing
APL Colombo (Cont) 3/5	13/5	NOL	Cont	L/Sing
QC Lark (Cont)3/5	14/5	Sing	QCSL	Cont
Nongkhai Navee	14/5	Thai	Mutual	Soda Feldspar
IPC Astra-IV	14/5	BSL	For	Demolition
Yuan Zhi	14/5	Cana	Mutual	WT(P)
B Shikha (Cont)2/5	15/5	BSL	Cont	L/Sing
B Lanka (Cont)5/5	15/5	BD Ship	Cont	L/Sing
Ravadas (E/L)3/5	15/5	SSLL	E/L	L/Ant
B Bijoy (Cont)7/5	15/5	Baridhi	Cont	L/Sing
J. Balsam (Cont)7/5	15/5	Sing	NOL	Cont
Jaguar	15/5	CBO	Everett	SPL
Anna S	16/5	TILB	Uniship	Scrap
QC Pintail (Cont)26/4	17/5	QCSL	Cont	L/Sing
Khaleda (E/L)8/5	17/5	Mong	OWSL	(2000WLD) 1,Good
K. Singa (Cont)7/5	17/5	Sing	Pil(BD)	Cont
Actuarial (Cont)7/5	17/5	Sing	QCSL	Cont
Salzach(Cont)7/5	17/5	BD Ship	Cont	L/Sing
Sea Bright (Cont)8/5	20/5	Sing	Pil(BD)	Cont
Boxer C Cook (Cont)9/5	20/5	TTL	Cont	L/Sing

Tanker due:

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Al Sabiyah	10/5	Sing	MSTPL	MSHSD (RM)
Eagle Anes	11/5	Sing	MSTPL	JPSKQ(RM)
Sceptre	12/5	Sing	SeacomCDSO	(RM43/8)
Anawan	13/5	Juba	ECSL	HSD(RM)

Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo	Last port call	Local agent	Date of arrival
Energy Explorer-IV			BRAL	5/4 at 1700 hrs
Ismaya			Arafeen	17/8 at 1030
Dea Champion			Arafeen	17/8 at 12/4
Dea Conqueror	P.Mat	Sing	Arafeen	4/5 at 2330
Seabulk Command			IBS	R/A(4/5)

The above are shipping position and performance of vessels at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.