

# GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION AGAINST POVERTY



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## Crises of Leadership: G8 must prove its relevance to the world.

The 2009 G8 risks putting another nail in the coffin of G8 summitry. The lack of energy and momentum by G8 leaders seriously undermine commitments to the millions of people desperately hoping for true leadership to help them in this time of global crisis. The communiqué released yesterday was a collection of repeated assurances that the G8 would meet its promises but without any plan of action or semblance to reality. The G8 urgently needs to show leadership over the next 24 hours to turn this around.

The situation is critical: the global financial crisis looks set to push an extra 200 million into poverty – millions of people lacking education, healthcare, clean water, and sanitation and other basic services needed to escape poverty and tackle climate change and the Millennium Development Goals are currently set to be lost by a long shot. Every year the world fails to deliver the promised \$50 billion in aid, means another year in which millions of lives are lost and millions more are trapped in poverty.

Dismayed by the Summit's lack of attention to rising poverty around the world, civil society organizations have come together to call upon the G8 to stop dragging their heels and deliver concrete action.

*"This G8 is at risk of becoming a joke. The worlds' poorest are facing a crisis not of their own making; meanwhile G8 leaders have spent only a few short hours on this issue. For the G8 to work, the leaders need to get to work. Make the next 24 hours count – or they will be the last few hours the world take the G8 seriously."*

*Kumi Naidoo (Co-Chair, Global Call to Action Against Poverty).*

*The Global Call to Action Against Poverty is an alliance of over 1500 organizations these include:*

