

- . Other new and emerging issues: recognition of the development finance challenges posed by the climate change and the fluctuations in the prices of primary commodities, including food and energy; and the need to strengthen international cooperation in tax matters.
- Staying engaged: the call for strengthening the follow-up mechanism of the Monterrey and Doha Conferences, while maintaining its inclusive, multistakeholder character.

Plenary meetings

was a critical element in fostering both the development of the domestic private sector and for attracting foreign investment, especially to Africa.

It was suggested that the current crisis was an opportunity to "green" the Earth's economy. Investment in

- sumer-protection mechanisms for microcredit.
- · Given the critical lack of productive capacity and relatively high cost of electricity in many developing countries, further investment in infrastructure, including energy, agricul-

Issue 19, December 2008 4

the Doha round with a balanced out-

Issue 19, December 2008 5

uty Managing Director, IMF, moderated the panel. Presentations were made by the following panelists: Nancy Birdsall, President, Center for Global Development; Carlos Braga, Director, Economic Policy and Debt Department, World Bank; Benoît Coeuré, Co-Chairman, Paris Club; Robert Gray, Chairman, Debt Financing and Advisory, HSBC; and Mary Robinson, President, Ethical Globalization Initiative.

The following key points were made in the presentations and discussions:

. Substantial progress has been achieved in the implementation of the external debt chapter of the Mon-

At such times, he continued, "it is right and necessary that the international community gather under the auspices of

Issue 19, December 2008 8

through development finance web portals that facilitate investor access to information in developing countries.

Speakers also discussed how to promote globally balanced and ecologically sustainable economic growth. A proposal was made to mainstream ecosystem indicators and values in corporate management and annual reporting systems. Moreover, corporations should seize new biodiversity business opportunities, including bio-friendly segments within established sectors, such as eco-agriculture, eco-tourism, certified forestry, as well as new sectors like biocarbon and biodiversity banking. Public-private partnerships could help make business capacities more relevant to conservation efforts.