

## **A Question for a PEER REVIEWED article in VIEWPOINT**

**Topic:** Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

**Length:** 3000-3500 (not including references).

### **Question**

"Looking ahead to 2015 and beyond, there is no question that we can achieve the overarching goal: we can put an end to poverty. In almost all instances, experience has demonstrated the validity of earlier agreements on the way forward; in other words, we know what to do. But it requires an unswerving, collective, long-term effort...[falling short of the MDGs] would be an unacceptable failure, moral and practical." *United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon.*

The MDGs have now been in existence for 10 years with 5 years to go until the deadline is reached to achieve them. The UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon is calling world leaders to a summit in New York, 20-22 September 2010, to give a boost to the cause.

Could you briefly outline your understanding of the current status of the MDGs (both in terms of its effectiveness on the ground in poor nations and also the political and financial commitments from developed nations)?

In the lead up to the Australian federal election what would you like to say to the leaders of the federal political parties about policies regarding the MDGs and international development and overseas aid more broadly?

### **Considerations**

In your article could you please address the questions above in the context of the following:

- It is recommended that you reference key journals, academics, philosophers, government agencies, NGOs or other credible sources that support your view.
- You should use relevant and contemporary examples to justify your position and critically respond to the main concerns and arguments against your position.
- Articles should contain clear recommendations or suggestions to policy makers with a particular eye towards swaying an equivocal politician towards your point of view.