

An ODI, Peacechild International, CPRC and APGOOD Event

## ‘Youth and Development: Learning the Lessons of the World Development Report 2007’

### Speakers:

- ♦ Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for International Development
- ♦ Andrew Mitchell MP, Shadow Secretary of State for International Development

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December  
12.30-2.00PM

Committee Room 12, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

The aims of this public meeting are to explore whether the critical issue of youth is high on the government and donor agenda and how it is being pursued as a global and local issue. Also to explore how youth concerns are being supported by policy and how the wider development community, including researchers, NGOs and young people themselves, can more effectively address the problems raised by the report.

The World Bank's World Development Report 2007 was published in September. Entitled 'Development and the Next Generation,' it focuses for the first time on youth and development. The report states:

*'With 1.3 billion young people now living in the developing world - the largest-ever youth group in history - there has never been a better time to invest in youth....'*

*'Developing countries which invest in better education, healthcare, and job training for their record numbers of young people between the ages of 12 and 24 years of age, could produce surging economic growth and sharply reduced poverty...'*

*'Most developing countries have a short window of opportunity to get this right before their record numbers of youth become middle-aged, and they lose their demographic dividend...'*

*'With youth unemployment running at up to twice the adult rate, failure to seize this opportunity to train them more effectively for the workplace, and to be active citizens, could lead to widespread disillusionment and social tensions.'*

If you would like to attend, please send an email stating your name,  
organisation and contact details to: [meetings@odi.org.uk](mailto:meetings@odi.org.uk)

**NB:** Please enter the House of Commons through St Stephen's Entrance (marked number 6 on this map: <http://www.parliament.uk/commons/lib/colmap.pdf>). After making your way through security, the clerks will direct you to Committee Room 12 on the Committee Corridor. It is important to allow 5-10 minutes to get through security and arrive at the Committee Room. As the House will be sitting there *may* be a change of room at the last minute. If this is the case, the reminder email that will be circulated one day before the event will contain the new room details. There will also be a board outside the meeting room directing you to another room. The clerks on the Committee Corridor will also be able to assist should a room change occur.