

2005 - A year to "Make Poverty History"

2005 is going to be a really important year in the fight to eradicate world poverty and we have a unique opportunity to make a real difference. The UK government will hold the presidency of the European Union and also chair the G8 summit of leaders from the world's richest countries. It is the ideal time to let our leaders know what we believe to be right and the churches will be at the forefront.

Make Poverty History brings together Christian Aid and other UK agency campaigns to call for three things:

- trade justice
- further debt cancellation
- more and better aid

It is aiming to be the biggest thing on poverty that the UK public will have encountered since Live Aid or Jubilee 2000. It will feature during Comic Relief night and lots of celebrities will be used throughout the year to raise its profile. The symbol for the year will be a white armband/wristband that people will be encouraged to wear throughout the year and at campaign events.

Make Poverty History calendar

Jan: Launch of MPH with celebrities

Jan 29th: London, church leaders event for MPH

Friday 11th March: 10th Red Nose Day

March/April: Africa Commission reports

10-16th April: Global Week of Action for trade justice

May: possibility of general election (possibly Thurs 5th)

1st July: 'Wear the white armband day'

2nd July: G8 demonstration in Edinburgh

6-8th July: G8 summit

July to Dec: UK holds presidency of the EU

September: UN Millennium Development Goals conference

December: EU Heads of State Meeting

December: WTO Ministerial meeting in Hong Kong

To find out how you can take action and stay informed, visit

www.MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY.org.

The critical message of the year can be summed up in just 9 words:

**TRADE JUSTICE. DROP THE DEBT. MORE AND
BETTER AID.**