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OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

2007 OCT -6 PM 5:10

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

DRAFT
City Attorney

RESOLUTION URGING U.S. SUPPORT OF DEBT CANCELLATION FOR IMPOVERISHED COUNTRIES IN AFRICA

WHEREAS, many impoverished countries in Africa have been struggling under the burden of international debts for many years; and

WHEREAS, many African countries have foreign debts that were incurred by dictatorships which did not use the funds in ways that benefited the population of their countries; and

WHEREAS, these foreign debts have a negative impact on United States communities, by contributing to mass migration, global poverty and wage suppression that undermine United States jobs; by pressuring impoverished country governments to pursue environmental practices that contribute to global warming; and by exacerbating health and security problems that cross borders; and

WHEREAS, the United States Government in 2000 endorsed the UN Millennium Development Goals, which include a commitment to provide debt relief and other assistance necessary to cut global poverty in half by the year 2015; and

WHEREAS, debt relief efforts to date are insufficient to help impoverished countries meet the Millennium Development Goals; and

WHEREAS, that the City of Oakland, on behalf of the citizens of the City urge the United States Government to immediately commence efforts to obtain agreements from the international financial institutions to cancel all debts owed to them by impoverished countries; now therefore be it

WHEREAS: that the City of Oakland, recognizing that the welfare of citizens of their City is linked to the welfare of citizens in impoverished countries, urges the United States Government to ensure that debt cancellation is not conditioned on any agreement to implement policies that deepen poverty or degrade the environment or undermines human rights; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the City Council of the City of Oakland urges the United States Government to support the debt cancellation for impoverished countries in Africa.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, October 16, 2007

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE
NOES-
ABSENT-
ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California