



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Zapatero commits himself to working so the United Nations agrees on “a source of financing through the financial system” to fulfill the Millennium Objectives**

The Prime Minister and General Secretary of the PSOE, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, at a meeting with European and world political leaders that at the Un Summit on the Evaluation of the Millennium Objectives “we must commit to a new and stable financial instrument to fulfill the Objectives of the Millennium and win the fight extreme poverty in the world; which can be achieved”, he said.

Zapatero noted that the September meeting at the United Nations is “decisive one” and “we must work to find some source of financing to fulfill the Objectives of the Millennium through the financial system and to demanding the financial system, not only for solidarity reasons, but also in order to balance economic growth and the international economic order”, because “the best way to avoid another crisis is to correct the serious imbalances of the world”.

#### **Committed with Africa**

In his closing speech of the ‘African Progress’ Conference, held at the headquarters of the socialist Party, Zapatero noted that in the last years, in Spain, “we have broaden our outlook, our commitment and our responsibility with Africa” which has represented “our maturity as a country in our international outlook” and, in this sense he reminded that it is the continent “with more Spanish embassies and consulates” and the continent and which “receives more aid for Development from Spain”.

Besides, the Prime Minister pointed out that his Government has tried to do things differently with Africa, “based on political dialogue, with policies and development, not for Africa but with Africa, with the conviction that a strong development can only be achieved by paying attention to the priorities of African countries.”



“Spain is already in Africa and Africa must feel Spain and be with Spain”, Zapatero said but, he also added that now “we are taking a further step: a step toward political collaboration in the field of progressive ideas, the ones that are progressing in the world”. “We must consider Africa-he said- as a determining political factor for the future of progressive ideas”.

The leader of the PSOE affirmed that it is the first time that the answer to an economic and financial crisis “has not been protectionism” and “the trend will be to favor more opening to trade”. “This is decisive for Africa and, of course, Spain is backing the most extensive Doha trade agreement as possible”, he pointed out.

## **Immigration**

Zapatero also referred to immigration from Africa, and explained the objective of the Government which has been to “try to regulate immigration, manage agreements between the countries of origin and of course, to give the best humanitarian treatment”.

So, he told the African leaders attending the Conference that in Spain “we welcome foreigners who come to make a living abiding by our laws”, but, above all that, “we wish those young people who come by boats could have in their countries, expectations for education and this one of the responsibilities of the international community”, he concluded.