25% of the disease, 3% of the health workers
Africa bears one-quarter of the burden of disease around the world yet has barely 3 percent of all health workers.

8.8 million children die annually
8.8 million children die each year before they reach their fifth birthday. In sub-Saharan Africa in 2008 one in seven children died before their fifth birthday.

Preventable deaths
The majority of child mortality is caused by readily preventable disease such as pneumonia, diarrhoea, malnutrition.

45% penetration and climbing
Africa today has over 415,000,000 mobile phone subscribers, up from 150 million in 2006. Approximately 20,000,000 people connect new mobile phones in Africa every three months.

350,000 women die annually
More than 350,000 women die annually from complications during pregnancy or childbirth, 99 per cent of them in developing countries.

1 million children motherless
70% of maternal deaths are caused by five direct complications of pregnancy and childbirth and result in some one million children being left motherless each year. Children who have lost their mothers are up to 10 times more likely to die prematurely than those who have not.

High child mortality rates
Of the 67 countries having high child mortality rates, only 10 are currently on track to reduce the rate by two thirds by 2015. In 20 countries the mortality rate of children under 5 is actually increasing.

Millennium Development Goals
Reducing Child Mortality and Improving Maternal Health are two of the health related Millennium Development Goals. To find out more go to www.un.org/millenniumgoals