

Filomeno Santa Ana: Good morning to everyone. My name is Filomeno Santa Ana and I also represent the Social Watch Network. The primary mandate of Social Watch is to monitor the Millennium Development Goals. The pass monitoring, however, is just no limited to watching or keeping tab of trends and development. Social Watch translate into social action; Social Watch is doing advocacy at local, national and international level. Social Watch is present all over the world, in the North, in the South, in all continents. Activities range from writing statements and petitions, meeting with policy makers, and dialogue with electors either, popular education and training, too much into the streets. Every year, Social Watch Members in numerous countries, publish national reports that documents, analyses, critics and case studies, relating to MDGs and human development. The distinct contribution of Social Watch to the development advocacy is the critic of the conventional way of measuring poverty, which is based on income (the 1\$ a day measurement). this has to be quite asides, ... Social Watch presents an alternative: we view the income is but one means, to reduce poverty, but that is not enough: equally important are assuring people access to education, to health and to other essential services and building the capacities and creating the conditions for their empowerment. In some countries, including the Philippines where I come from, Social Watch Members tested and developed more appropriate, more sensitive, more robust poverty measurements. We can call these alternatives the quality of life index, which gives more emphasis to access, to kept abilities and to empowerment. Eradicating poverty necessitates the changing of rules of institutions, at the local, national and international levels. Thus, Social Watch has to work from the grassroots to the global level. At least at the local level, assuring the existence of democratic space, people can directly intervene, influencing or making policies in institutions. It is at the international level, however that the link between people and institutions is weak. The global institutions are controlled by narrow elite; moreover the global policies elite are not accountable to National States, much less from the people of the world. Brothers, a superpower has not retentions in violating international rules; it is for this reason that Social Watch members support initiatives to reform and change global rules and institutions and is for this reason too that Social Watch unite with United Nations Peoples Assembly, to advance the cause of eradicating war and poverty and promoting equity, peace and justice.