Table of contents

Preface ........................................................................ 9
Roberto Bissio

From social contract to private contracts:
The privatisation of health, education and basic infrastructure
A review of the 2003 Social Watch country reports ............... 11
Tim Kessler

Public services at risk: GATS and the privatisation agenda ...... 16
Citizens’ Network on Essential Services

Privatising human rights – the impact of globalisation on adequate
housing, water and sanitation ............................................ 18
Miloon Kothari

The marketisation of social reproduction in the new service-led
economy ..................................................................... 22
Marina Fe B. Durano

Forging a Global Partnership for Development:
Some Critical Issues ....................................................... 24
Martin Khor

Europe for business or Europe for its people?
The European Union and the GATS ...................................... 26
Mirjam van Reisen

Globalisation and trade: challenges for the Arab World ........... 30
Ziad Abdel Samad

MEASURING PROGRESS

Some comments on country-to-country poverty comparisons .......... 34
Andrea Vigorito

Assessment of the advances up to 2000 ................................ 37

About the methodology ................................................. 40
Sources of the infographics «The Hood Robin Economy» .......... 42

Information poverty ........................................................ 44

Statistics showing country by country progress toward
social development goals ................................................ 48

Progress or regressions in the fulfilment
of the Copenhagen goals .................................................. 71

Gender gap evolution ...................................................... 75

Changes in public expenditure .......................................... 77

Trends of the official development assistance ............................ 79

Table of signatures and ratifications of international
treaties mentioned in the Millennium Declaration ............... 80

Table of signatures and ratifications
of key international agreements ......................................... 82

Table of ratifications of Fundamental ILO Conventions .......... 84

Progress towards the Millennium Development Goals .......... 86

NATIONAL REPORTS

ARGENTINA .................................................................. 92
In the hands of the oligopoly of foreign capital

BAHRAIN .................................................................... 94
Scarce transparency in services policies

BANGLADESH ................................................................ 96
Corruption and mismanagement threaten jute mills

BOLIVIA .................................................................... 98
Water and privatisation: doubtful benefits, concrete threats

BRAZIL ...................................................................... 100
The implicit agenda of a conservative patrimonial reform

BULGARIA .................................................................. 102
The big sale in the water supply market

CAMBODIA .................................................................. 104
The long road to poverty eradication

CANADA ...................................................................... 106
Will Canada pawn or polish the jewel in the crown
of its social security system?

CHILE ....................................................................... 108
The brutal rationale of privatisation

COLOMBIA .................................................................. 110
The violation of social rights within market rationale

Costa Rica ..................................................................... 112
Selling our grandparents’ inheritance

ECUADOR ..................................................................... 114
Adjustments, debt and privatisations: what will become of our rights?

EL SALVADOR .............................................................. 116
Privatisation: a process with cracks

GERMANY .................................................................... 118
The unacknowledged social implications

GHANA ....................................................................... 120
The struggle over water

HONDURAS .................................................................. 122
The invisible price women have to pay for privatisation

INDIA ....................................................................... 124
Erosion of rights and marketisation of development

ITALY ....................................................................... 126
Federalism, privatisation and an individualist philosophy

JORDAN ...................................................................... 128
The money into the pockets of foreign companies

KAZAKHSTAN .............................................................. 130
To the detriment of women, children and the poor

KENYA ....................................................................... 132
The stark realities of an ideological orthodoxy

KOREA ....................................................................... 134
Privatisation, conflict and discontent

LEBANON .................................................................... 136
Confronting the fiscal crisis through privatization

MALAYSIA .................................................................... 138
The high cost of private monopolies

Social Watch / 7
Poverty in the midst of the market: the Zambian scenario

The Doi Moi policy and its impact on the poor

VIET NAM ................................................................ 192

The social programme of the Bolivarian Republic

VENEZUELA ................................................................ 190

and privatisation by default

The reform of the social sector: statism, inequality

disciplines on the poor

UNITED STATES ........................................................ 186

Privatisation: a troubling legacy

UNITED KINGDOM ......................................................... 184

Privatisation: a troubling legacy

UNITED STATES ........................................................ 186

Service industry deregulation: corporate crime and tougher
disciplines on the poor

URUGUAY ................................................................. 188

The reform of the social sector: statism, inequality

and privatisation by default

VENEZUELA ................................................................. 190

The social programme of the Bolivarian Republic

VIET NAM ................................................................ 192

The Doi Moi policy and its impact on the poor

ZAMBIA ...................................................................... 194

Poverty in the midst of the market: the Zambian scenario

Sources and Resources .................................................. 196

MEXICO ........................................................................ 140

Now the responsibility lies with the individuals

MOROCCO ..................................................................... 142

On the way to deepening social inequalities

NEPAL ........................................................................... 144

Rockbottom economic status

NETHERLANDS .............................................................. 146

The poor unprotected

NICARAGUA .................................................................. 148

A nation in the dark

NORWAY ........................................................................ 150

The current undermining of the Welfare State

PAKISTAN ..................................................................... 152

Extreme poverty, forced labour, «honour crimes»...

PALESTINE ..................................................................... 154

Relying on others: provision of water and health care

PARAGUAY ..................................................................... 158

Social mobilisation against privatisation

PERU .............................................................................. 160

The people halt privatisation

PHILIPPINES ................................................................ 162

The water case: increased rates for poorer services

PORTUGAL ..................................................................... 164

An urgent need for public awareness

SENÉGAL ......................................................................... 166

Less State, fewer benefits

SOUTH AFRICA ............................................................. 168

The widening gap between rich and poor

SPAIN ............................................................................ 170

A priority debate postponed

SUDAN .......................................................................... 172

The damage of declining public investment on services

SURINAME ..................................................................... 174

Shape up or ship out!

TANZANIA ..................................................................... 176

Benefit of an elite at the expense of the poor majority

THAILAND ..................................................................... 178

The dark side of global markets

TUNISIA .......................................................................... 180

Democratic deficits in the midst of liberalisation

UGANDA .......................................................................... 182

Privatisation versus the poor

UNITED KINGDOM .......................................................... 184

Privatisation: a troubling legacy

UNITED STATES .............................................................. 186

Service industry deregulation: corporate crime and tougher
disciplines on the poor

URUGUAY ..................................................................... 188

The reform of the social sector: statism, inequality

and privatisation by default

VENEZUELA ..................................................................... 190

The social programme of the Bolivarian Republic

VIET NAM ..................................................................... 192

The Doi Moi policy and its impact on the poor

ZAMBIA .......................................................................... 194

Poverty in the midst of the market: the Zambian scenario

Sources and Resources .................................................. 196

TABLES AND CHARTS IN THE COUNTRY REPORTS

Brazil Table 1: Current account (USD billions) ......................... 100

Table 2: Foreign investors in PND (USD millions) ................. 101

Cambodia Table 1: Budget expenditure through the National Treasury ... 104

Table 2: A Comparison of social and economic development investment .................................................. 104

Chile Chart 1: Secondary and higher education coverage

per income quintile (%) .................................................... 109

Chart 2: Female population in the health insurance system ... 109

Costa Rica Table 1: Income from EBAIS care – Private companies

(2002 – USD millions) ................................................. 112

Table 2: Regular education institutions and services

by functional unit, initial public and private

education enrolment (2002) .............................................. 113

Ecuador Chart 1: Evolution of the Trade Balance ...................... 114

Chart 2: Money wage vs. basic family basket ...................... 114

Table 1: Increase in the price of basic services

(energy, gas and water) .................................................. 115

El Salvador Table 1: Programme of neo-liberal measures in El Salvador ... 116

India Table 1: Expenditure of central and state governments on health ... 125

Lebanon Table 1: Main privatisation candidates ....................... 137

Mexico Table 1: Proportion of the poor population in Mexico, 2000 .... 141

Morocco Table 1: Evolution of health care (1990-2000) ................ 143

Table 2: Trends in education (1990-2000) - Total enrolment

(in thousands) .............................................................. 143

Netherlands BOX: Lessons of privatisation of non-essential services ........ 147

Pakistan Table 1: Human deprivation profile .............................. 152

Table 2: Wealth and poverty ............................................... 152

Spain Table 1: Participation of Spanish companies in the privatisation

of BSS in Argentina and Chile ......................................... 171

Tanzania Chart 1: Exempt patients attended at Nachingwea District

Hospital ................................................................. 177

Uganda Table 1: Proportional morbidity of the top ten causes in the

Outpatient Department (%) ........................................... 183

Uruguay BOX: The financial crisis ........................................ 189

Viet Nam Table 1: Access to healthcare services by income quintiles ... 193