October 2013

Dear Microcredit Summit Campaign and fellow partners in the global movement to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty,

With this letter Opportunity International states our Commitment to take specific, measurable, and time-bound action to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty – and therewith make a major step forward in ending extreme poverty entirely.

We know that this bold goal will require global partnerships that enable organizations to work together in new and innovative ways across a broad range of financial and non-financial sectors to reach goals and benchmarks that could not be obtained working apart. We are eager to join this global movement to demonstrate with others the power of partnerships against poverty and also to inspire new collaborations with those committed to supporting the movement of millions out of extreme poverty.

We know too that a goal means little without a concerted effort to honestly and accurately measure progress made towards the goal and therefore we commit to measuring our progress toward our goals through a consistent and reliable system. We also know that movement out of poverty will require dedicated efforts to support those journeying out of poverty and we commit to developing and implementing products and services that facilitate this type of movement.

Therefore Opportunity International is pleased to announce the following Campaign Commitment:

- Understanding and reporting clients’ poverty status and changes in clients’ poverty status over time. We will do this Network-wide by the end of 2014 through use of robust client survey tools – including the Progress out of Poverty Index where available.
- Improving the provision of education to 275,000 children through SME lending to schools by the end of 2014
- Delivering over 100,000 rural loans to smallholder farmers in Africa expanding our outreach from five to eight African countries while simultaneously expanding Opportunity’s rural savings programs to $25M by the end of 2014.

We look forward to presenting the progress we have made to reach these benchmarks at the next Microcredit Summit and to then renewing our Commitment with new benchmarks for specific, measurable, and time-bound actions to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty.