

Eighth High Level Group Meeting on EFA 16-18 December 2008 in Oslo, Norway

Draft Program

Tuesday 16 December 2008

Morning

Registration

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Technical meeting to discuss Oslo declaration

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Opening Ceremony in the Oslo City Hall

Master of Ceremony: Ms Ase Kleveland

Welcome speeches

Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO

Mr Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway

H.M. Queen Rania of Jordan

Video message from UN Secretary General

H.R.H Crown Prince Haakon, Norway, UNDP Goodwill Ambassador

Mr Abdoulaye Wade, President of Senegal

Cultural program intertwined with opening ceremony, participation of Norwegian children

Ms Sissel Kyrkjebø, UNICEF Goodwill ambassador

To be confirmed: Class of 2015 presentation and sign up (15 min), GCE

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Panel discussion at the Oslo City Hall

Moderated by Ms Eva Bratholm, Director of Information and Public Affairs, Norad

Theme "Overcoming inequality - Education as a driver for change"

Panellists:

Ms Hilde Johnson, Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF

Ms Joy Phumaphi, Vice President, World Bank

Mr Erik Solheim, Minister of Environment and International Development, Norway

Ms Naledi Pandor, Minister of Education, South Africa

Mr Kailash Satyarthi, President Global Campaign for Education

Mr Craig Barrett, Chair Intel

Mr Greg Mortenson, Co-founder and Executive Director, Central Asia Institute, Author of the bestseller book "*Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace...One School at a Time*"

7.30 p.m.

Dinner hosted by the Norwegian Minister of Education

Wednesday 17 December 2008

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Introduction

- **Opening remarks** by Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General, UNESCO
- **Adoption of the agenda**
- **Presentation of the recommendations from the Working Group on EFA, issues to be discussed**
- **Presentation of the Oslo Declaration** by Mr Nicholas Burnett, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Plenary Discussion I: Education for All: Strengthening governance and the commitment to equity*

Co-Chairs, Discussants, General plenary discussion

Presentation of the key findings of the 2009 EFA Global Monitoring Report (GMR)

by Mr Kevin Watkins, Director of the EFA Global Monitoring Report (30 minutes)

Key messages

- ▶ The 2015 EFA targets for children, youth and adults are at increasing risk of being missed due to the failure of the international community to address global inequality and to the failure of governments to tackle inequality within their countries.
- ▶ Equity and quality must be at the core of all education policies. Governments should develop well-defined targets for reducing disparities based on wealth, location, ethnicity, gender and other indicators for disadvantage, and monitor progress towards achieving them.
- ▶ Decentralizing financial responsibility and management for education to local levels can exacerbate inequalities if central governments do not maintain a strong role.

Questions:

What interventions are needed to reach the disadvantaged and marginalised groups?

How can we bring in more “accountability”?

Is girls’ education a prerequisite for gender equality?

How can we best provide education in fragile states?

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch hosted by the Norwegian Minister of Environment and International Development, for Ministers and Heads of Agencies

Theme: Girls’ education as a driver for gender equality and development

Special guest: Ms Angélique Kidjo, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador

Chair, Speakers

Parallel drafting session of the Oslo Declaration

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Plenary Discussion II: Recruiting and Rewarding Teachers

Co-Chairs, Discussants, General plenary discussion

Key messages

- ▶ Qualified and motivated teachers are key to improving both access to learning and the quality of education.
- ▶ Teacher policies must address training, status and working conditions, and ensure adequate remuneration and professional development opportunities, with a special focus on attracting women to the profession in countries where discrimination against girls persists.
- ▶ Education for All will not be achieved without a massive effort to recruit and train teachers and to improve their status and recognition.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Plenary Discussion III: Financing EFA: Respect the Compact

Co-Chairs, Discussants, General plenary discussion

Key messages

- ▶ National financing accounts for the bulk of education spending. Government spending on education is a measure of a country's commitment to EFA. Low-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South and West Asia tend to invest the smallest shares of GNP in education.
- ▶ Donor commitments to basic education in low-income countries amounted to \$3.8 billion in 2006, leaving an annual financing gap of close to \$7 billion. Education for All will not be reached without bold increases in financial commitments and predictable aid flows to support developing country efforts.
- ▶ Better results: to make aid work better for education, donors must continue to improve coordination among themselves and to align their aid with national priorities.

Questions: What is needed to make the compact work/more operational?
What is needed in terms of governance and results for a substantial scaling up of both national and international funding?
Aid effectiveness, an excuse for donors not to deliver?

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Finalization and adoption of the Oslo Declaration

Closing remarks:

Mr Erik Solheim, Minister of Environment and International Development
Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General, UNESCO

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Dinner hosted by the Director-General of UNESCO

**Note on the plenary sessions: the plenary sessions are hosted by two chairs: one education minister and one convening agency representative. The co-chairs will introduce the topic (5 minutes each) and open the floor for discussion.*

Thursday 18 December 2008

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Press Conference (exact time and place to be confirmed)

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Technical follow-up meetings

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Establishment of Task Forces in line with the Oslo Declaration

Oslo programme 20nov08, draft

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. International Advisory Panel on EFA meeting