

Report of the meeting of the Steering Committee of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA

AU Conference Centre, Addis Ababa - Ethiopia, 23 February 2010

1. The second meeting of the Steering Committee of the International Task Force on Teacher for EFA was held on 23 February 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
2. The objectives of the meeting were (i) to present and discuss the January 2009 - February 2010 progress report and (ii) to ensure approval of the 2010 Task Force calendar of activities.
3. The following constituencies participated in the meeting (in alphabetical order):
 - ADEA
 - African Union Commission
 - Benin
 - EC (co-chair)
 - Education International
 - Germany
 - ILO
 - India
 - Indonesia (co-chair)
 - Norway
 - UNESCO
4. The meeting was co chaired by Ms Marja Karjalainen, representing the European Commission, and Mr Sumarna Surapranata, representing the Republic of Indonesia.
5. The co-chairs presented the January 2009 - February 2010 progress report and the 2010 revised calendar of activities for feedback and approval.
6. Discussions focused on the following:
 - i. **The Task Force in general and its progress report in particular:**
 - Benin expressed appreciation for the valuable work done by the Task Force, and advocated for consideration of the TTISSA toolkit implementation by the Task Force.
 - Norway also thanked the secretariat for its good work, and noted that the G8 group welcomed and endorsed the Task Force when it was created. Therefore, the Norwegian government appeals for continued commitment to the Task Force.
 - ADEA highlighted the importance of a holistic response to teacher issues, including primary, secondary, tertiary, and TVET education, and underlined the need for the Task Force to facilitate networking.
 - The African Union Commission pointed at the existing surplus of teachers in some African countries, presenting teacher mobility as a response to the teacher gap.
 - Indonesia shared its experience with the improvement of teacher competencies through a certification process and through professional development.

ii. The 2010 calendar of activities:

- ILO was provided with further details regarding the funding of the Task Force as requested.
- UNESCO underlined the need to prepare the answer to the following questions: how do countries request for country support? What kind of support is the Task Force able to offer? This work is now under way.
- ADEA suggested that the Task Force considers resource institutions / organizations, in addition to resource persons. The suggestion will be taken into consideration for relevant activities.
- ILO asked how the members of the Steering Committee would be involved in the review process of the studies prepared by the Task Force. The Task Force will send studies to the members of the Steering Committee for feedback when the need for consultation arises.
- The African Union Commission explained that it is planning a meeting on teacher development in September 2010. The event has been included in the Task Force calendar of major teacher-related events.
- Norway requested that mention of South-South cooperation be inserted in the calendar and insisted on broad cooperation more generally. The suggestion was inserted in the calendar of activities.

Outcomes of the meeting:

1. The 2010 calendar of activities was revised as suggested by the Steering Committee and is available in Annex I.
2. It has also been decided that, should a small change in the date of an activity be necessary, the secretariat could make a request to the co-chairs without referring to the whole Steering Committee.

Annex I (English)
Updated 2010 calendar of activities
May 2010 version

April

- Calendar of relevant international events established and participation in these events for advocacy purposes planned.

May

- "Teachers for EFA" website developed and corresponding online resource base set up.

June

- Stock taking of major ongoing activities by development partners, and relating to teachers for EFA finalized, in order to promote relevant South-South and North-South-South cooperation.

July

- One policy dialogue event organized: seminar to share international research on teacher education, management, deployment and support in the context of teacher shortages, in preparation of the conference on "Providing teachers for EFA" in Africa.
- Steering Committee meeting back to back with the policy dialogue event.
- Preliminary draft of the advocacy document on recurrent costs, aid predictability and aid dependency developed.
- Databank of resource persons for 'ad hoc' country-level technical support with regard to the teacher gap established.
- UNESCO "Tool to identify priority countries" with regard to the teacher gap finalized.
- Country requests for technical assistance from the Task force processed.

August

- Desk study on the "efficiency and effectiveness of policies and practices to address the teacher gap for Education for All in different contexts" developed, in preparation of the conference on "Providing teachers for EFA" in Africa.

September

- Second year work-plan finalized.
- Task Force meeting.

October

- World Teachers' Day advocacy events.
- Conference on 'Providing Teachers for EFA' in Africa organised to foster policy dialogue on teacher issues. The meeting will consider inter alia possibilities of increasing private sector financing for teachers.

November

- Proposals for the development within existing EMIS models of appropriate indicators and mechanisms for data collection to better inform teacher policy-making formulated.

December

- Teacher-related advocacy toolkit prepared.
- Development of an evidence-based indicative framework regarding teacher policy-making in areas such as teacher salary levels, deployment issues, etc. to be

contextualized (in relation to countries' financial resources) and used as an advocacy tool for increased resource mobilisation, both external and internal.

- First online event organized.
- Partnership opportunities explored with regard to teacher data; teacher-related policy-development and planning; teacher management and deployment; and financing for teachers, and beginning of some joint activities.
- Technical support provided to at least three countries with regards to the teacher gap.

2011 (precise date to be determined)

- Participate in and contribute to a focused meeting on the themes of innovative financing and emerging donors organized by UNESCO.

