

International Task Force on Teachers for EFA

Steering Committee Meeting

Amman, Jordan — July 7, 2010

1.45 p.m - 5.00 p.m

Minutes

1. Introduction and adoption of the agenda

The Task Force on Teacher for EFA Steering Committee met in Amman on Wednesday, July 8, 2010. The meeting was chaired by the two co-chairs, the European Commission and the Republic of Indonesia. The full list of participants can be found in Annex 1.

Antonio Marquez-Camacho (Task Force on Teacher for EFA co-chair, European Commission) and Sumarna Surapranata (Task Force on Teacher for EFA co-chair, Republic of Indonesia) opened the meeting and went through the items on the agenda (the agenda can be found in Annex 2). Steering Committee members having read the Progress report for period March 2010-June 2010, it was decided in the interest of time and effectiveness, to discuss the work plan priorities of the Teachers for EFA' Secretariat.

2. Calendar of Activities (from July to December 2010)

The Steering Committee noted a heavy calendar of activities but without clear achievable objectives and a concrete work plan. Some members felt that additional staffing would reinforce the Secretariat and enable it to deliver on the Task Force Programme. However, most members felt that after a staggered start, the work plan should be amended to be results oriented, and that convincing results should be presented before considering additional staff that would have budgetary implication.

The clarity of the objectives set is instrumental to ensure that implementation can be achieved with a good measure of results. Similarly, when reporting on events attended by the Secretariat, there should be a thread between these events and the objectives.

With the new Head of the Teachers for EFA' Secretariat in post, Steering Committee members expected that the Task Force would renew its efforts and impulse a new dynamic. Indeed, the Steering Committee took note that the Secretariat is now fully staffed and that it is headed by a full-time Head. It has now to start working speedily to respond to the expectations raised by the Task Force and to show clear results which can be proof of the added value of this new initiative.

3. Work Programme 2010-11

The Task Force has a wide mandate on dissemination of analytical work, exchange of experience and good practice, facilitation of knowledge, sharing to help improve policies and

address the teacher gaps. The Secretariat had prepared a report of work carried out between February and June 2010 in these fields, as well as an indication of work planned for the second half of the year. The SC asked the Secretariat to review the planned actions and to come up with a proposal before the end of July 2010 to streamline them and give priority to the following themes and/or actions: advocacy and communication and/or networking, desk studies, conference on “Providing teachers for EFA”, and Country support. The Work Programme should be results oriented, and realistically address activities that would be achievable by 2011. It should be plausible to donors and in line with EFA goals. Activities should be clearly detailed (what, when, where, why and with whom).

Next steps/Actions agreed:

The Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat will prepare a work plan based on suggested priorities and send it to the Steering Committee for comments and suggestions by July 31, 2010.

- **Prioritisation**

Steering Committee members underlined the importance of prioritising activities considering staff availability, budget, and time.

The areas of work of the Task Force should therefore be prioritised towards areas where the Task Force can make a difference. So far, the Task Force has facilitated sharing of experiences and information. The next step (beyond sharing) should now be considered. A suggestion was to focus on selected key teacher issues, and compile good practices in addressing these issues as resources for countries to draw from when designing their national plans.

Five priorities to meet the 3 gaps (policy, capacity and resource) were identified:

1. Sharing of experiences e.g through the website
2. Dissemination
3. Advocacy
4. Resource mobilization
5. Capacity development with the pending question of how to get the demand started from the countries; as well as how to constitute the pool of experts effectively. Questions were also raised concerning the process, country selection and the difference such initiative would make at country level?

The immediate lines of activity recommended for implementation between July and December 2010 were therefore the following:

- (i) Advocacy and communication/networking
- (ii) Desk studies
- (iii) Conference on “Providing teachers for EFA”
- (iv) Country support

- **Advocacy and Networking**

Recommendations were made for the Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat to strengthen the advocacy and networking, and to pull together resources on the Task Force. The Steering Committee felt that it is important that the Task Force be represented in relevant international events and that this is planned for 2011. Representation can be through a member of the Secretariat or through a member of the Steering Committee who plans to participate in the targeted event. Task Force members should be mobilised for advocacy and dissemination as the role of the TF as a network of active, willing partners should be underlined in the future.

In this context, the German representative offered to represent the Task Force in the forthcoming UNESCO World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) to be held in September 27-29, 2010 in Moscow. ECCE is confirmed as a priority area regarding advocacy for teachers, and advocacy is confirmed as a working area which contributes indirectly to closing the teacher gap.

Next steps/Actions agreed:

a) Ensure the special role of the Task Force as a common platform and network of existing organisations, focusing on the three teacher gaps, i.e. the policy, capacity and financing gaps. ‘Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat to act as a think tank and as a resource centre, with the involvement and the support of the Steering Committee.

b) Platforms for advocacy include the following:

- ADEA Triennial to be held in 2011.
- GMR (2011) on Fragile states
- GMR (2012) on Skills development
- World Bank consultation on their Education Strategy

The Task Force should work with other partners and avoid duplication; as well as be on the look out for new studies.

c) Determine Task Force and/or ‘Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat’s eventual participation in the World Conference on ECCE, keeping in mind that participation to any event should be in contribution to addressing the three gaps (policy, financial and capacity). Secretariat to provide available information on the ECCE Conference to representative from Germany.

• **Task Force Meeting and Conference on ‘Providing Teachers for EFA’**

A Task Force Meeting should be held annually according to the Task Force TORs. Whereas a conference on “Providing Teachers for EFA” was initially to be conducted jointly with the African Union Commission (AUC) in Togo. It was also reminded that the annual Task Force Meeting for 2010 is still due with the main objective to agree upon the work plan for 2011.

The conference on teacher issues in Africa (which is to be funded by the Commission), should take place in Africa before the end of 2010, as initially scheduled. Results and recommendations of the Conference should then be presented to the High Level Group for EFA which is to take place in Thailand in early 2011. On this point the SC instructed the Secretariat to review the possible options for the conference, which might take place for instance in late November or early December 2010. It should check on possible locations and partners which might provide support (particularly for logistics) and come up with a concrete proposal soon (before the end of July) which the SC could then endorse.

In view of the constrained time it is suggested to combine the Task Force Meeting and the conference to save ‘Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat staff time for other tasks, de-burden participants’ time schedule (both meetings would invite the Task Force members), and possibly save costs (to be verified); and to move the events towards the end of the year. Within the framework of the Secretariat’s proposal and final decision of the SC, the next meeting of the Teachers Task Force could therefore take place with this Conference or eventually all Task Force members could be invited to this event.

Next steps/Actions agreed:

The 'Teachers for EFA' Secretariat is requested to suggest time and place(s) for the TF meeting and the conference and to communicate these to the Steering Committee for comments.

'Teachers for EFA' Secretariat to explore possibility of holding Task Force Meeting back to back with the EFA Working Group meeting scheduled for December 2010.

• **Country Support**

The nature of providing technical support to governments has to be clarified, drawing from existing experience, and the targeted countries identified, avoiding that regions feel excluded. Establish a pool of experts or await the nature of the requests from countries? Can application of the Teacher Training Initiative for Sub-Saharan Africa (TTISSA) analytical instruments be a possible means of country support? This is answered positively. The Steering Committee agreed that the Task Force should reinforce the work of TTISSA as well as that of other pertinent initiatives.

Country support is seen as an important contribution from the Task Force beyond advocacy which should start soon, and as a useful process to improve consistency across all the countries selected. It was acknowledged that support may not be the same across all countries and that it was important to think about different support based on the nature of the need or demand. The Task Force does not need to necessarily implement directly and should be careful not to duplicate with others. It can work in synergy or have a catalytic or brokerage role.

Next steps/Actions agreed:

The mechanism to provide support to countries has to be given top priority and the Secretariat needs to better define its modalities. SC members stressed that the Task Force needs to be able to facilitate advice and assistance to Task Force member countries. This does not have to imply direct assistance by the Secretariat but the Secretariat needs to be able to know about relevant expertise and to direct countries to the other countries and experts which may provide them ("South-to-South" cooperation).

4. Policy Fora

Steering Committee members felt that there should be less policy fora, especially given that two events were scheduled for the fall and that the Secretariat already had many activities.

The Steering Committee also reviewed the Second Policy Dialogue Forum, and the results very positive although in future events more interaction with participants should be foreseen and preparatory work should start earlier on so that draft agenda, documents for discussion and other relevant information are transmitted sufficiently in advance. All practical issues such as visas for participants, etc., should also be dealt with well in advance. A more participatory approach is suggested with more space for discussion and exchange, and more advance information even in a draft form to enable participants to get prepared, and the Steering Committee to comment and contribute.

Dates of meetings should be communicated well in advance and allow for flexibility. Participants' assessment of the Forum to be evaluated to assess the usefulness of such meetings.

5. Role of the Steering Committee

It was suggested that Steering Committee members should participate more actively and support the Secretariat. Steering Committee members could provide support on specific issues (holistic approach in education, quality, etc.), including in the preparation of the forthcoming events, and in advocacy through distribution of Task Force documents during events and at the working stations.

6. Management

Steering Committee members emphasized the need to have the agenda of the Steering Committee meetings set and sent in advance, as well as to receive reports in good time to take cognizance of them. Minutes should be drafted and sent to SC members within a week.

Next steps/Actions agreed:

The Secretariat should prepare minutes of all meetings of the Steering Committee and should ensure in future meetings that simultaneous translation is provided to facilitate the participation of all Steering Committee members.

Efficiency has to be demonstrated when working with the available funds of the Task Force. This includes efficient communication between the secretariat and the Steering Committee members to create synergies and save staff time and costs, e.g. through a brief every month or every six weeks sent by the Secretariat to Steering Committee members. This process should be distinguished from exchanges with co-Chairs and more systematic information sharing to the Steering Committee.

Next steps/Actions agreed:

The ‘Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat agreed that main areas for improvement included providing agenda and documentation well before the meetings and improving communications. Minutes of Steering Committee will be sent out within a week (7 days).

7. Matters arising

• Focal Points

Countries which have not joined the Task Force yet will be invited again to do so by appointing national contact points. It is expected in particular that Arab countries which had not joined yet but which have participated in the Policy Forum, such as Jordan itself, may now decide to do so.

Letters to be sent by UNESCO ADG of Education for consistency.

• UNESCO

UNESCO representative deplored the awkward fact that for some people, UNESCO is expected to stay away from a venture in which it is fully part of. Steering Committee members thanked UNESCO as coordinator of EFA, privileged member of the Task Force and host of the ‘Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat. They reminded that the ‘Teachers for EFA’ Secretariat should be autonomous whilst being hosted at UNESCO, like the Global Monitoring Report (GMR) team.

• Website

It was agreed that the Secretariat should provide more comprehensive information up front, and should assist with the sharing of good practice across countries.

• **Recommendations**

- a) Education International (EI) representative emphasized that the Secretariat should not be expected to do everything but can benefit from tools. The toolkit was seen as being still relevant, whereas caution was recommended concerning the development of an evidence-based indicative framework regarding teacher policy-making in areas such as teacher salary levels, deployment issues, etc.
- b) Better preparedness and ensuring that conferences, fora, etc. are more participatory in nature. Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) representative recommended that participants be well targeted before being invited. There should be more sharing of experiences, and an evaluation form handed out to participants to fill at the end of the conference, would give a good evaluation and an impact assessment of e.g. policy dialogue fora.
- c) Not have too many meetings but focus on follow up. The EFA HLG meeting (February 2010, Thailand) should be a touch point for the Task Force.

8. Next Steering Committee meeting

The next meeting of the Steering Committee may take place at the latest at the time of the planned conference in Africa. SC members may decide to meet earlier on if it is considered necessary and they will remain in close touch in the next few months

9. Close

Antonio Marquez-Camacho closed the meeting and thanked Steering Committee members for attending and for the constructive discussions.

Annex 1

List of participants

1. Steering Committee members:

Country/Organisation	Participants in the meeting of 7 July 2010	Contact details of the participant
African Union Commission	Ms. Rita Bissoonauth <i>Senior Policy Officer</i>	Tel: +251 115517700 E-mail: ritbissoo@yahoo.com
Benin	Mr. Comlavi Maoudi Johnson <i>Coordonnateur EPT Ministère des Enseignements maternel et primaire</i>	Tel. : +229 20215222/ 95856959 E-mail: maoudijohnson@yahoo.fr
Education International	Mr. Dennis Sinyolo <i>Co-ordinator Education and Employment Unit</i>	Tel.: +32 22240611 Fax: +32 22240606 E-mail: Dennis.Sinyolo@ei-ie.org
European Commission	Mr. Antonio Marquez Camacho <i>Policy Officer DG Development</i>	E-mail: Antonio.Marquez-Camacho@ec.europa.eu

Germany	Ms. Karin Jahr de Guerrero <i>Deputy Head of Division Division for Education, Health, Population Policy German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)</i>	Tel: +49 228 995353609 Fax: +49 228 995353755 E-mail: Karin.Jahr-de- Guerrero@bmz.bund.de
	Ms. Dagmar Fuchs <i>Director Sector Project Sector Policy Advice and Promotion of Girls in Education Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)</i>	Tel : + 49 6196/79-1533 Fax : + 49 6196/79-801533 E-mail: dagmar.fuchs-schmitz@gtz.de
Voluntary Service Overseas	Mr. Stephen Nock <i>Policy & Advocacy Adviser (for Education & Health)</i>	Tel: +44 (0) 2087807686 E-mail: stephen.nock@vso.org.uk
India	Mr. Anant Kumar Singh <i>Joint Secretary (EE-I) Department of School Education & Literacy Ministry of Human Resource Development</i>	Tel : +91 1123387648 E-mail: anant.edu@nic.in
Indonesia (Republic of)	Mr. Sumarna Surapranata, Ph.D. <i>Director of Training and Development DG for Quality Improvement of Teachers and Education Personnel Ministry of National Education</i>	E-mail: direktur_pranata@yahoo.co.uk
	Dra. Enda Wulandari <i>Head of Multilateral and Regional Sub-division Bureau of Planning and International Cooperation Ministry of National Education</i>	E-mail: e.wulandari@yahoo.co.id
Norway	Ms. Gerd-Hanne Fosen <i>Senior adviser Dep for Policy Analysis, Lifelong Learning and International Affairs Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research</i>	Tel (office): 00 47 22 24 70 61 Mobile: 00 47 926 88 249 E-mail: Gerd-Hanne.Fosen@kd.dep.no
UNESCO	Mr. Edem Adubra <i>Chief Section for Teacher Education Division of Higher Education</i>	Tel: +33 145681558 Fax: +33 145685626 E-mail: e.adubra@unesco.org

2. 'Teachers for EFA' Secretariat:

- Ms Amina Osman, Head, 'Teachers for EFA' secretariat
- Ms Ilse Voss-Lengnik, Programme specialist, 'Teachers for EFA' secretariat
- Mr Gogot Suharwoto, Programme specialist, 'Teachers for EFA' secretariat
- Ms Gabrielle Bonnet, Programme specialist, 'Teachers for EFA' secretariat

- Ms Aminatou Diagne, Assistant programme specialist, 'Teachers for EFA' secretariat
- Ms Sandrine Regiec, Programme assistant (backstopping from Paris)
- Mr Steven Obeegadoo, Senior Adviser to the 'Teachers for EFA' secretariat

3. Excused and absent:

Excused:

France	Mr. Alain Masetto <i>Chargé de mission Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes</i>	Tel : + 33 1.43.17.67.05 E-mail : alain.masetto@diplomatie.gouv.fr
ILO	Mr. William Ratteree <i>Education Sector Specialist</i>	Tel: +41 22 7997143 Fax: +41 22 7997046 E-mail: ratteree@ilo.org
Peru	Mr. Cesar Uribe Neyra <i>Coordinator of the EFA technical commission</i>	E-mail: curibe@minedu.gob.pe
United Kingdom	Ms. Sally Gear <i>Education and Gender Adviser Department of International Development (DFID)</i>	E-mail: S-Gear@dfid.gov.uk

Absent:

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Mr. Khalifa Musbah Khalifa <i>Directeur du haut Centre de la formation des enseignants</i>	E-mail: info@libyaunesco.org.ly
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Third meeting of the Steering Committee of the 'International Task Force on Teachers for EFA'

Kempinski Hotel, Amman, Jordan, 7 July 2010

PROPOSED AGENDA

I. Agenda item 1: Draft agenda of meeting and participants

DRAFT AGENDA	
1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Welcome, presentation of participants, adoption of agenda
2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Report of the Task Force for the period February to June 2010
2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Updated 2010 Calendar of Activities/ Work Plan
3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Coffee/tea break

3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	<p>Forthcoming Events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force annual meeting, Paris, October 2010 • Conference co-organised with EC & AUC, November 2010
4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Next Steering Committee meeting & Wrap-up

List of members of the Steering Committee and participants to the meeting

Country/Organisation	Designated focal points	Participants to the 11 December meeting
African Union Commission	Ms Rita Bissoonauth	Ms Rita Bissoonauth
Benin	Mr C. Maoudi Johnson	Mr C. Maoudi Johnson
Education International	Ms Monique Fouilloux	Mr Dennis Sinyolo
European Commission	Mr Antonio Marquez Camacho	Mr Antonio Marquez Camacho
France	Mr Alain Masetto (MAE)	
Germany	Ms Karin Jahr de Guerrero	Ms Karin Jahr de Guerrero Ms Dagmar Fuchs
Global Campaign for Education / Voluntary Service Overseas	Ms Lucia Fry Mr Purna Shrestha	Mr Stephen Nock
ILO	Mr William Ratteree	
India	Mr. Anand Singh Ms Anshu Vaish	Mr. Anand Singh
Indonesia (Republic of)	Mr. Agus Sartono	Mr. Surapranata Ms. Wulandari
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Mr Khalifa Musbah Khalifa	
Norway	Ms Gerd-Hanne Fosen Ms Tove Kvil	Ms Gerd-Hanne Fosen
Peru	Mr Cesar Uribe Neyra	
UNESCO	Mr Georges Haddad Mr Olav Seim	Mr Edem Adubra
United Kingdom	Ms Sally Gear	