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Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
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联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

World Education Forum

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Intervention

by

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Vice-Minister of Education
of the People's Republic of China

Respected Ministers,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Good morning,

15 years after our commitment in Dakar, we are having a milestone event today. I am very pleased to be here and I would first thank the government of the Republic of Korea for hosting the Forum.

As you know, we have 1.36 billion people. 260 million are students. 180 million of them are studying with 10 million teachers in primary and secondary schools.

But I'm glad to say that we have successfully achieved the goals of EFA, and realized the universal access to free 9-year compulsory education and adult literacy 4 years ahead of the global agenda.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Looking back, the experience we have gained, we love to share with you.

First of all, China has taken education as a major driving force to economic growth and social progress, thus has ensured solid financial support. From 2000 to 2013, public expenditure on education has increased by 8.6 times.

At the same time, rule of law in education is essential guarantee. China has issued laws and regulations in compulsory education and literacy to define the responsibilities of central and local governments.

Last but not least, equity is always the core of education. China has been paying more attention to education in remote rural areas and for marginalized groups. Continuous efforts are made to narrow gaps in educational development across the country.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In the post-2015 development agenda, we are facing common challenges, such as reducing poverty, protecting environment and fighting terrorism. In order to address these issues, we need work together with mutual respect, equal dialogue, effective cooperation, and mutual assistance. Only through education can we pass down the spirit from generation to generation. And only through continuous efforts of each new generation, can the world be finally a better and better place.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I believe this conference will renew our commitments and unite our efforts, to build a peaceful, harmonious, inclusive and knowledge-based global society in the 21 century.

I wish the Conference a great success!

Thank you!

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