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Организация
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منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

Global Education First Initiative High-Level Event

“Quality Education for the World We Want”

Speech

by

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

United Nations Headquarters
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Your excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Good afternoon.

It's a pleasure for me to speak at this meeting, and to see the high-level commitment to educational development by leaders around the world.

His Excellency President Xi Jinping of China, though not able to attend this meeting due to his schedule, places high importance on Global Education First Initiative. In his letter to the Director-General of UNESCO, Madame Irina Bokova, he emphasized the significance of today's meeting and his willingness to appoint a representative to attend the meeting on his behalf. He points out that education is the primary means for transmitting culture and knowledge, and for producing the youth for a better world. It is the cornerstone for national rejuvenation and for social progress.

Ladies and gentlemen,

China is a developing country of 1.3 billion people, and two hundred sixty million students. The Chinese government fully supports the goals of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Prioritizing the development of education and making it sustainable is a national policy of fundamental importance in China. The Chinese government at different levels has increased their input in education to implement the strategy of rejuvenating the nation with science and education.

Balanced development of education between urban and rural areas, and equal opportunities for students are the guiding principles for educational development in China, and we have made headway in this respect. I'm proud to tell you that China has achieved all the goals set for its 9-year compulsory education.

Equal, inclusive and quality education needs good teachers. The Chinese government has attached great importance to teacher education and training, to achieve equitable distribution of quality teaching resources.

China sees as the fundamental mission of education that students should have whole-person and individual development, so that they will become the needed talents for the comprehensive development of a nation and the future world.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As a champion country of the Global Education First Initiative, China will do its utmost in partnership with other member states of UNESCO, especially African and under-developed countries, to support and participate the Post-2015 Development Agenda, so that our joint effort will bring forward a brighter future for all mankind.

Thank you.

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