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Meeting of the National Education for All Co-ordinators for Sub-Saharan Africa

UNESCO-Paris, 17-19 September 2001

FINAL REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UNESCO's Regional Office in Dakar, in conjunction with the principal development partners, organised a meeting of all the national EFA co-ordinators, from the 17th to the 19th of September 2001 at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris, with the aim of energising the EFA process in sub-Saharan Africa.

The specific objectives of the meeting were:

- 1) Evaluation of the progress made in drawing up the national EFA action plans;*
- 2) Suggestions for a regional action plan to support EFA;*
- 3) Proposals for a regional EFA follow-up mechanism;*
- 4) Reinforce partnerships in aid of EFA.*

The conclusions of the meeting were as follows:

- 1) On the progress made in the preparation of the national action plans, three distinct situations were noted:
 - a. 10 countries will complete their EFA action plan in 2001, one country has already completed it;*
 - b. 9 countries will finish in the first half of 2002;*
 - c. 27 countries will finish in the second half of 2002.**
- 2) On the regional action plan, the general orientation was approved with five specific objectives:
 - a. co-ordination and follow-up;*
 - b. communication and advocacy;*
 - c. regional co-operation;*
 - d. capacity building;*
 - e. support for innovations.**
- 3) On the regional follow-up mechanism, the principle of a regional EFA forum was agreed upon, to be integrated in the regional action plan. It will be comprised of:
 - a. the 6 sub-regional representatives of the national EFA co-ordinators;*
 - b. representatives of the United Nations agencies;*
 - c. representatives of the technical and financial partners;*
 - d. representatives of the regional and sub-regional African organisations;*
 - e. representatives of NGOs and civil society.**
- 4) On partnership building, the national co-ordinators meeting was supported, in both its preparation and organisation, by contributions from the principal technical and financial partners:
 - a. multilateral co-operation : UNESCO,UNDP,UNICEF,UNFPA, ADB, World Bank, Agence Internationale de la Francophonie;*
 - b. bilateral co-operation : JICA, DFID, France, Holland, USAID ;*
 - c. NGO and civil society: FAWE, Education internationale, People for Action forum, Aide et Action, ACC/NGO;**

d. network: ADEA.

Some of the partners took specific steps to provide countries, through work programmes or requests duly formulated, with the support needed to draw up the national EFA action plans before the end of 2002.

Appeal to the Education Ministers:

As a follow-up to the meeting, an appeal was made to the Education Ministers to:

- a. strengthen the national leadership of the EFA process through:
 - mobilisation of all interested parties,*
 - co-ordination of the contribution of the external partners,*
 - support to the national EFA co-ordinators in their mission;**
- b. confirm the main lines of the regional follow-up action plan for the Dakar Forum ;*
- c. confirm the organisation of the national EFA co-ordinators into 6 sub-regional groups;*
- d. confirm the proposed regional follow-up mechanism, namely, a regional EFA Forum.*

5) Response of the Education Ministers:

Within the framework of the inter-governmental follow-up committee of MINEDAF, the African Education Ministers adopted, at a meeting held in Paris on 17th October 2001, the conclusions of the meeting of national EFA co-ordinators, proving once again their commitment to attaining the Education for All goals.

INTRODUCTION

On the 17th, 18th and 19th of September 2001, at the invitation of UNESCO's Regional Office in Dakar (BREDA), the national education for all co-ordinators for all the countries of sub-Saharan Africa - a total of 43 out of 46 - gathered at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris. Other participants were the representatives of the technical and financial partners of the multilateral and bilateral organisations active in the development of education in Africa. NGOs and civil society were also represented. The expected results of the meeting were as follows:

- report on the progress in the preparation of the national EFA action plans ;
- establishment of a programme of activities by the national co-ordinators for the finalisation of the action plans ;
- formulation of recommendations and suggestions on a draft regional EFA action plan;
- development of an EFA regional follow-up mechanism ;
- strengthening of co-operation with development partners.

This report will show the extent to which these results were achieved, and after considering the background to the work, will deal with the four points which were the objectives of the meeting :

- ï Evaluation of the progress made by the Member States of the region in the elaboration of the EFA action plans ;
- ï Examination of the draft regional follow-up action plan of the Dakar Forum ;
- ï Creation of the regional EFA follow-up mechanisms ;
- ï Promotion of co-operation with the development partners.

I. CONTEXT

The context was described during the opening session chaired by Mrs. Aïcha Bah Diallo, Assistant Deputy Director for Education. It was further clarified during the introductory speeches. The first seven interventions by:

- Mr. John Daniel, Deputy Director for Education,
- Mrs. Francisca Do Spirito Sancto, Vice-Minister for Education of Angola,
- Mr. Gabriel Bayémi of the African Development Bank,
- Mrs. Changu Mannathoko of UNICEF,
- Mrs. Jeannette Vogelaar of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
- Mr. Elie Jouen of Education Internationale,
- Mr. Richard Sack, Executive Secretary of ADEA,

highlighted the main characteristics of the education for all process:

- a fully participatory educational process, with strong national leadership, leading to the elaboration of national education for all action plans before the end of 2002, which were to be integrated into the bigger framework of the fight against poverty ;
- a process for mobilisation of all the internal and external partners of a country to ensure they work towards the achievement of EFA goals;
- a process for raising and allocating different kinds of resources – human, technical and financial – in line with the commitments of the international community ;

- a technically strong process for conducting and measuring the progress of EFA, chiefly due to the availability of quantitative and qualitative information.

This process would be relatively simple to implement if the reality of education in Africa and its context were not so tragic in certain respects. In fact:

- nearly 50% of the countries risk being unable to attain education for all in 2015, going by the current trend;
- over 30% of the children who could be educated will not have access to schools;
- gender disparity in education affects 75% of the countries;
- the HIV/AIDS pandemic seriously affects the education sector in terms of deaths of teachers (10% in the next 5 years), as also with regard to the increasing number of AIDS orphans (this could affect 20% of the children of school-going age);
- by around 2005, almost 51% of the population of sub-Saharan Africa may be living in absolute poverty;
- numerous countries of the region are in a crisis situation and are facing reconstruction problems.

It is after taking into account this reality that the contribution of education to African Renaissance should be considered. In this regard, Mr. Baba Hakim Haïdara when presenting the constraints and the opportunities, dealt with four problem aspects of education in Africa – the finalities of education, the curriculum and teaching and learning techniques, the use of the national language in education and lastly the context of adjustment with respect to education. To complete the picture, the Director of BREDA gave an overview of the follow-up of education for all in Africa that testified, a little over a year after the Dakar Forum, to the actions taken at the national level that were supported by actions at the regional level. For example:

- nomination by the ministers of education of national EFA co-ordinators, 45 out of 46 till date;
- establishment of EFA national follow-up mechanisms in the form of national forums for instance in certain countries;
- mobilisation of human, technical and financial resources to draw up the national EFA action plans.

And yet, the EFA process is still only in its infancy. Energising this process was the major reason behind the organisation of the meeting of the national EFA co-ordinators who devoted themselves to the task of attaining the objectives listed further below.

II. PROGRESS IN DRAWING UP THE NATIONAL ACTION PLANS

In order to carry out an exchange on this item of the agenda, the participants formed 6 work groups each corresponding to the different sub-regions in Africa:

- Group I West Africa (in French): Benin, Burkina-Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo;
- Group II Central Africa (in French): Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Congo, Central African Republic, the Gabon, Chad ;
- Group III East Africa (in English): Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania ;

- Group IV Southern Africa (in English): South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe;
- Group V The Islands (in French) - Cape Verde, the Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Mauritius, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Djibouti ;
- Group VI West Africa (in English) - Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone.

From the exchange of information on the national EFA processes, and in particular with regard to the objective of preparing the national EFA action plans for end-2002, three progress levels emerged:

- countries which will complete their EFA action plan during the year 2001 : 10 countries, of which one has already finished;
- countries which will finish in the first half of 2002 : 9 countries;
- countries which will finish in the second half of 2002 : 27 countries.

The large number of countries in the third level was a source of concern for all the participants who identified the problems faced by the EFA process, which may be regrouped into four elements :

- institutional difficulties in the organisation of the EFA process at the national level ;
- inadequate human resources and technical capacities;
- constraints in financial resources ;
- poor support from external partners.

This identification of the difficulties correlated to the expression of the requirements gleaned from the questionnaire distributed by the BREDA and to which 31 out of the 46 countries replied before the meeting:

- requirements in training : 37%
- requirements in consultative services : 32%
- requirements in documentation and information : 29% .

In terms of perspectives, whatever the current situation observed, all the national EFA co-ordinators were determined to take all the measures necessary to meet the 2002 deadline. To this end:

- they will draw up their own activity schedule ;
- they will utilise the information and instruments distributed during the meeting ;
- they will call upon the expertise of specialised UNESCO institutions and other diverse agencies ;
- they will call upon the partners for their support ;
- they will count on the national leadership.

As regards the information disseminated during the meeting and that was very useful for the national EFA co-ordinators, it is worth taking note of the following points mentioned:

- importance of credible and high quality national action plans;
- how to integrate the issue of gender equality in the national EFA action plans ;
- understanding the nature and urgency of the 2005 goal relating to the reduction of the disparity in education between boys and girls ;
- follow-up and evaluation of EFA through research activities of the EFA observatory ;
- importance of the participatory approach in drawing up the action plans ;
- use of simulation models in drawing up the action plans.

As regards the support of specialised institutions, we note the presence of :

- the International Institute for the Planning of Education (IIPE) at Paris ;
- the International Education Bureau (BIE) at Geneva ;
- the UNESCO Institute for Education (IUE) at Hamburg ;
- the International Institute for capacity building in Africa.

Besides, the perspectives rely and base themselves upon the world EFA movement through the impetus and support coming from the global initiative on one hand and the political leadership of the African Union on the other.

III. REGIONAL FOLLOW-UP ACTION PLAN OF THE WORLD FORUM ON EDUCATION FOR ALL

A draft regional action plan was presented in plenary and discussed in working groups. The overall goal of the action plan is to mobilise and co-ordinate support for the Member States of the Africa region in their efforts to attain the education for all goals.

The action plan has the five specific goals mentioned below which constitute its 5 components:

- co-ordination and follow-up of the progress made in the implementation of the EFA goals;
- communication and advocacy with a view to mobilising the partnerships required to the EFA goals;
- regional and sub-regional co-operation converging towards EFA and taking into account in particular the implementation of the Action Plan of the African Unit for the Decade of Education in Africa 1997-2006 ;
- building up the capacities of the Member States, especially through training, in the formulation and implementation of the education for all plans;
- support for innovations in field of education for all from the viewpoint of sustainability, real evolution and exchange between countries.

The discussions of the meeting resulted in a consensus on the acceptance of the principle of the regional follow-up action plan of the World Forum on Education for All. For the finalisation of the document, observations were made and relate to the following ideas:

- the heart of EFA activity lies at country level ; therefore, the link between regional and national activities must be strengthened ;
- in the EFA process, national leadership is of paramount importance; the regional action plan should be designed and implemented keeping this characteristic in mind ;
- the sub-regional dimension should be taken into account in the regional action plan ;
- the regional action plan should be understood to be an evolving process with the progressive involvement of all the parties concerned at the level of the countries and the international community.

BREDA will continue to play an instrumental role according to the orientations and suggestions given by the meeting and which were included in the reports of the six working groups. A new version of the action plan will be presented to the Ministers of Education.

IV. REGIONAL EFA FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM

The Dakar Framework for Action clearly states in paragraph 18 that “regions and sub-regions will decide up a lead EFA network that will become the Regional or Sub-regional Forum with an explicit mandate in this field”. On this basis, an explicit proposal for a

Regional EFA Forum was presented during the meeting. Further, the regional action plan also dealt with the question of a regional EFA follow-up mechanism.

To summarise, the principle of a regional follow-up mechanism for the Dakar Forum was accepted.

It is understood that various functions will have to be assumed with regard to the regional follow-up of the Dakar Forum, in particular:

- a political function of orientation and impetus which is the prerogative of the Ministers of Education ;
- an advisory and an organisational function which must be assumed by all the national stakeholders and the external partners ;
- a technical function which lies with the specialists ;
- a function of day-to-day management which falls to UNESCO/BREDA.

All these functions need to be organised within the regional follow-up mechanism, whatever its name, the mechanism should also be consistent with the mechanisms created at the global level.

Some important remarks made by the EFA national co-ordinators were as follows :

- the regional mechanism should take into account a sub-regional approach, and thus take support from existing sub-regional African entities such as the AU, CDEAO, UEMOA, SADC etc...
- the national EFA co-ordinators should be represented in the regional follow-up mechanism by their sub-regional representatives elected during the Paris meeting ;
- the regional mechanism should be based on a participatory approach.

The sub-regional representatives after consultation with each other at the end of the meeting put down the various suggestions regarding the regional EFA follow-up mechanism. The proposal is for a regional EFA Forum which will include :

- 6 sub-regional representatives of the national co-ordinators;
- representatives of the United Nations agencies;
- representatives of the technical and financial partners;
- representatives of the regional and sub-regional African organisations;
- representatives of NGOs and civil society.

The detailed proposal figures in appendix n° 1.

V. BUILDING UP PARTNERSHIPS

The meeting of the national EFA co-ordinators for the Africa region south of the Sahara was supported, in both its preparation and organisation, by contributions from the principal technical and financial partners:

- multilateral co-operation : UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ADB, World Bank, AIF;
- bilateral co-operation : JICA, DFID, France, Holland, USAID ;
- NGO and civil society: FAWE, Education internationale, People for Action Forum, Aide et Action, ACC/ONG;
- network: ADEA

During the opening session as also during the special session devoted to partnership, the representatives of these various organisations who were able to take part in the deliberations

reaffirmed their readiness to support the countries in their efforts. Some partners have taken specific steps to provide countries, through work programs or requests duly formulated, with the support needed for drawing up the national EFA action plans before end-2002. The summary of the statements of the technical and financial partners figures in appendix n; 2.

VI. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

On the progress in the preparation of the national action plans

The process of preparing the national action plans is still in the nascent stage in the case of the majority of the countries.

Principal recommendations:

- a strong leadership to be provided by the national authorities,
- participatory methods to be used by the national co-ordinators in carrying forward the EFA process,
- advocacy with respect to the principal EFA stakeholders.

On the draft regional EFA action plan

The principle has been decided upon and its general orientation approved. The project will be finalised by BREDA on the basis of suggestions formulated during the meeting.

On the regional EFA follow-up mechanism

The principle of a regional EFA Forum was accepted. It will consist of:

- 6 sub-regional representatives of the national EFA co-ordinators;
- representatives of the United Nations agencies;
- representatives of the technical and financial partners;
- representatives of the regional and sub-regional African organisations;
- representatives of the NGOs and civil society.

This regional Forum will be integrated in the regional EFA action plan in the section corresponding to the regional follow-up mechanism.

On partnership

Partnership remains the leitmotiv of the entire EFA process, at both the national and international levels.

A strong national leadership at the highest level guarantees the required partnerships, both national and external, for the EFA process

VII. APPEAL TO THE EDUCATION MINISTERS

As a follow-up to the meeting, an appeal was made to the Education Ministers with regard to the following actions and decisions:

1) Strengthen national leadership of the EFA process through:

- mobilisation of all interested parties;
- co-ordination of the contributions from external partners ;
- support to the national co-ordinators in their mission.

- 2) Confirm the main lines of the regional follow-up action plan of the Dakar Forum as mentioned above in point III.
- 3) Confirm the organisation of national EFA co-ordinators into 6 sub-regional groups:
 - Group I West Africa (in French): Benin, Burkina-Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo ;
 - Group II Central Africa (in French) : Angola ,Burundi, Cameroon, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Congo, Central African Republic, Gabon, Chad ;
 - Group III East Africa (in English): A Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania ;
 - Group IV Southern Africa (in English): South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe ;
 - Group V The Islands (in French) - Cape Verde, the Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Mauritius, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Djibouti ;
 - Group VI West Africa (in English) - Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone.

Each group has a representative elected by its peers during the Paris meeting.

- 4) Confirm the proposed regional follow-up mechanism, namely, a regional EFA Forum as mentioned above in point IV.

VIII. RESPONSE OF THE EDUCATION MINISTERS

The African Education Ministers met at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris on 17th October 2001 within the framework of the MINEDAF inter-governmental follow-up Committee.

The following countries participated in the meeting : Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Ivory Coast, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Mauritius, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sudan, South Africa, Togo, Central African Republic, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

The meeting was chaired by His Excellency, Professor Abraham Babalola Borishade, Education Minister of the Federation of Nigeria.

The meeting had on its agenda, among other items, the follow-up of the EFA. An extract of the meeting report on this point is given in the box below.

EFA Follow-up

- The Ministers examined the report on the meeting of EFA co-ordinators for sub-Saharan Africa which was held from the 17th to the 19th of September 2001 at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris.
- They approved the recommendations of this meeting demonstrating once again their commitment to attaining EFA goals.
- The grouping of the countries into six sub-regional groups was slightly modified before being approved by the meeting. It is as follows:

Group I, West Africa (French): Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo.

Chair : Ivory Coast

Group II, Central Africa (French): Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo-Brazzaville, Equatorial Guinea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Gabon, Chad.

Chair: Gabon

Group III, East Africa (English) : Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania

Chair: Kenya

Group IV, Southern Africa (English): South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Chair: Zimbabwe

Group V, The Islands (French): the Comoros, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Sao Tome & Principe, Djibouti

Chair:

Group VI, West Africa (English): Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone

Chair: Sierra Leone.

- The EFA follow-up mechanism was approved.
- The Minister for Education of Nigeria was chosen to preside over the regional EFA Forum.
- The project to set up a specific forum to facilitate inter-regional co-operation in the field of EFA was also approved by the Ministers. It was decided that the Secretariat would identify centres of excellence which would participate in the forum, and set up working groups and networks which would allow for a sharing of experience between the countries.
- The project for the creation of a Forum of African Parliamentarians for Education (FAPED) was also approved.
- The Ministers lauded the efforts of the BREDA to involve all the development partners in the follow-up of Dakar and hoped that these efforts would continue to consolidate further the co-operation with ADEA, OAU (COMEDAF), ADB, SADC and the CDEAO.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

REGIONAL FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM

At the meeting in Paris of the national EFA co-ordinators, the chairpersons of the sub-regional groups met briefly on Tuesday, 18th September after a the working groups. Among other questions raised, they were asked whether each Group had given its approval, in principle, to :

1. the general layout of the regional action plan as the framework for action for EFA in the region ;
2. the main lines of a regional follow-up mechanism as contained in the proposal for a regional EFA Forum.

The Chairpersons of the regional sub-groups, as a prelude to their comments, affirmed that the discussion in the Groups had laid a higher emphasis on national issues rather than regional ones. The Groups had suggested that priority be given to national problems over regional issues. Further, all the Chairpersons insisted that the funding of the regional action plan and the regional EFA Forum should not lead to a reduction in the funds available for work in education for all at the national level.

On point (1), all the Chairpersons said that the Groups agreed in principle to using the outline of the draft regional action plan, subject to a few modifications, as a framework for action in the field of EFA in the region.

On point (2) all the Group Chairpersons affirmed that the regional follow-up mechanism adopted should be integrated into a revised regional action plan and should be in tandem with it. With the exception of Group 5 which desired a stronger emphasis on a sub-regional follow-up mechanism along the lines of the one that existed prior to the Dakar World Forum, all the Chairpersons accepted with some modifications, the regional EFA Forum proposed. They also agreed on the point that all the regional and sub-regional entities be used to play a role in the regional follow-up mechanism.

On the basis of the above, the following was proposed:

- The regional follow-up mechanism will function within the framework of the revised regional action plan.
- In the revised action plan, the name Regional EFA Forum will replace Regional EFA Consultative Council.
- A regional EFA Forum will be established to help supervise and co-ordinate the Dakar follow-up in the region and, as proposed in Section 75 of the draft action plan, will supervise the revised regional action plan as a whole.
- The regional Forum will include:
 - ï 6 sub-regional representatives of the national EFA co-ordinators,
 - ï representatives of the United Nations agencies,
 - ï representatives of the technical and financial partners,
 - ï representatives of the regional and sub-regional African organisations: for example, the CDEAO, SADEC, UA, etc.,
 - ï representatives of the NGOs and civil society.

- The regional EFA Forum will be presided over by a Minister of Education of sub-Saharan Africa, elected by his peers at the biennial of ADEA. Thus, during this conference, the Forum of Ministers proposed in Section 75 of the draft regional action plan will meet.
- The duration of the mandate of each President will run from his election until the next biennial conference of ADEA.
- The functions of the regional EFA Forum will be detailed in the revised regional action plan.
- In order to shoulder its responsibilities, the regional EFA Forum will meet twice every year. The meetings will be held in rotation as per the 6 sub-regional groupings based on the financial position and the capacities of hosting and organisation.
- A regional Secretariat/ Dakar Follow-up Unit (DFU-SSA) will be provided by the BREDA and installed within it. This organ will be able to delegate certain functions to other partners, especially the responsibility for certain themes. To this end, UNESCO/BREDA in consultation and in collaboration with other partners will assume the role of a clearing house for questions on Education for All in the region..
- Technical sub-committees and working groups will be created in an appropriate way within the regional EFA Forum and its Secretariat, depending upon the requirement.
- The regional Secretariat will carry out all the routine tasks of the Regional Forum by referring particularly to those specified in the revised Action Plan.
- The regional Secretariat of the Forum will have as its staff, the staff mentioned in the revised action plan, and in addition the President, and at least one of the sub-regional representatives elected from the national EFA co-ordinators.
- In the regional Secretariat, the representative of the national EFA co-ordinators will devote the major part of his time to questions relating to the national co-ordinators and will thus behave as their focal point in the Secretariat.
- The regional EFA Forum and its Secretariat will be financed by a coalition of partners.
- The EFA partners who will support the regional Secretariat significantly can place staff there and/or give support to the existing staff.
- The regional Secretariat has already had its begun its work and has been functioning in the UNESCO office at Dakar. However, the regional EFA Forum and its Secretariat will have an official existence as soon as the Ministers of Education for sub-Saharan Africa adopt the revised regional action plan and when the funds are made available by the partners supporting the EFA in the region.
- A link should be maintained between the forums at the national, sub-regional and regional levels.
- The EFA national co-ordinators will meet at the sub-regional level in the sub-regional forums. It would be useful for them to meet at the regional level. This will take place once a year on the occasion of one of the two meetings of the regional EFA Forum.
- With the aim of reducing costs, etc, it is recommended that the Forum meetings coincide, whenever it is possible, with other meetings such as those of ADEA, MINDEAF, etc.

APPENDIX II

SUMMARY OF THE DECLARATIONS OF THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS

On the morning of 19th September 2001, one slot was reserved for the declarations of the technical and financial partners of EFA. The summary of these declarations by institution is given below:

UNICEF

The representative of the UNICEF gave a presentation during the meeting to explain the nature and urgency of one of the objectives of Dakar – to ensure gender parity in the field of education by 2005.

At the close of the meeting of the EFA co-ordinators, it was estimated that the following lessons could be learnt :

- the sudden passion of the countries to prepare their national EFA action plans
- the conceptualisation of EFA and the extension of its dimensions to cover the following aspects : child welfare, health and nutrition, school environment suitable for learning, consideration of the impact on education of HIV/AIDS and crisis situations
- the identification of areas of support in the preparation of the action plans.

Revitalised with these points, UNICEF reiterated its commitment and confirmed its continued support to the EFA process.

JICA (Japan)

After having dealt with the measures taken by Japan in the sector of education (building of schools, teacher training sessions), the JICA representative underlined the importance of the meeting. He gave a commitment to propose to the headquarters of his organisation in Japan to finance on a priority basis, the requests concerning EFA. He then signified his willingness to receive requests relating to EFA and expressed his desire that JICA be associated at the national and regional levels with the efforts and reflections in support of the EFA.

HOLLAND

The Dutch representative appreciated BREDA's initiative of bringing together all the national EFA co-ordinators at Paris with the objective of taking stock of the progress made and the difficulties encountered in the EFA process. She stated that the Paris meeting makes it clear that the EFA does not limit itself only to national action plans but also implies partnership, education of the child, education for women as also other concepts widely debated during the meeting. She affirmed that her country would continue to support this wider concept of EFA. She indicated that Netherlands gives its support to education in six African countries, and more widely through ADEA with special reference to its SISED/NESIS programme. Finally, she thanked UNESCO and invited it to continue to facilitate consolidation of partnership with a view to attaining EFA goals.

INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR FRANCOPHONY (AIF)

The representative of the Agency affirmed the attachment of his institution to the Dakar commitments. The Agency has taken up EFA in its 2000-2003 action plan. Under this project, education of the girl child and female adult literacy will be supported. The interventions of AIF for the year 2002 will be devoted to the preparation of the national EFA action plans in the 20 French-speaking countries to the south of the Sahara in conjunction with other agencies. Special attention will be given to the 9 countries in a post-conflict situation. The requests of countries in this bracket could be addressed to the AIF through the national correspondents and the regional offices (Libreville, Lomé). The programme of the Agency for 2003 will be oriented towards the implementation of the EFA plans.

France

The representative of France thanked UNESCO for its role in giving impetus to and co-ordinating an international coalition in support of EFA. He then reaffirmed the commitment of his country in supporting the Dakar objectives to be materialised through the following actions:

- At an internal level, a first line concerns redefinition of the strategic orientations as per the Dakar issues with the objective of helping the countries to set in place control systems for piloting education policies. The second line of action is towards the PPTE initiative, which will release 10 billion euros of waived debts, the principal amount of which will go towards education and health. As per its partnership policy, France will give priority to the social sectors with a programme approach.
- At the international and multilateral level, the social expenses in the budgets need to be secured. On this point, France supports UNESCO and will give its determined support to this proposal at the G8 to achieve the Dakar goals.
- At the bilateral level, France will consolidate the co-operation with UNESCO with capacity building in statistics and evaluation. Thus, through ADEA, a centre of experts in analysis in the education sector will be set up at Dakar to support the preparation of the EFA action plans.
- Finally, France wishes to develop its co-operation with UNESCO in its fight against HIV/AIDS and its impact on the education sector.

UNFPA

The UNFPA representative gave a presentation during the meeting on EVF/EMP and the partnership developed by the UNFPA in this field.

The UNFPA representative noted that the future of a country depended upon the level of development of its education and its human resources. To this end, the NAP-EFA should take into account the different aspects of education, formal and informal. He insisted upon the need to develop a partnership between all the actors of the EFA. The FNUAP will continue, on the one hand, to support the programmes for Education in Population-related Education (EMP) and Family planning programs (EVF). On the other hand, it would support an active appeal at the national and international level to maximise the education of the girl child.

PAM

The PAM confirms its support in the elaboration of the EFA action plans. It invites the inclusion of the school canteen with a view to encouraging increased student attendance. Desirous of becoming a key partner in the EFA, the PAM waits for the resolution of the Paris meeting to proceed to action.

ADB

The representative of the African Development Bank thanked BREDA/UNESCO for its role in the facilitation and co-ordination in the organisation of the meeting at Paris and reaffirmed the support of ADB.

Despite being disadvantaged by the absence of a rapid intervention mechanism, the support of ADB could be concretised by making available resources under the current projects and under the capacity building component, through the regional offices (Niamey, Libreville, Harare, Addis Abeba, Abidjan). ADB could also support the financing of the NAP-EFA through its traditional components :

- African Development Bank
- African Development Fund
- Special Nigeria Fund
- Private sector (to come to the aid of private operators in the education sector).

UNESCO

The Director of BREDA was very impressed with the declarations of the different partners in the face of the various challenges posed by EFA. He assured the national co-ordinators of the commitment of UNESCO in its efforts to facilitate the support of all the partners in the reinforcement of the EFA process with a view to achieving the Dakar objectives. In this context, UNESCO has increased the resource allocation for education by 45.5%. Thus, for the continuation of the operations for preparation of the EFA action plan, a financial aid of USD 10,000 will be allotted to each country, which is essentially to facilitate the drawing up of the national EFA action plan. This contribution will be complemented by the other EFA partners under the authority of Agreement Protocols in order to cover the financial requirements budgeted by the respective countries in this domain.

The Director of BREDA hailed the contribution of the World Bank towards the preparation of the national co-ordinators meeting, but expressed his regret that they could not be represented in the Paris meeting due to the tragic event that took place in the United States on 11th September 2001. The Director of BREDA spoke of the commitment of the World Bank in accompanying the countries in the preparation of the EFA national action plans and also in reinforcing its collaboration with BREDA.

In conclusion, the Director of BREDA sought to remind those present that MINEDAF VIII in December 2002 would be the next major EFA meeting for the Africa region; the national EFA co-ordinators had a vital role to play in its preparation.

APPENDIX III

LISTE DE DOCUMENTS DE RÉFÉRENCE/ LIST OF REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

* documents en/in CD-ROM

1. *John Daniel (ADG/EG) Opening remarks. Dakar follow up ; defining the vision, implementing the reality. (EFA - EPT, meeting of UNESCO field officers 18 - 20 june 2001).
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APPENDIX V

Formulation of national EFA plans: state of information
available as of 05/10/2001 on the basis of replies given by national
Co-ordinators to **BREDA** survey questionnaire

| Country | Existence of national education and training plan | | | | Elaboration du plan national d'action EPT | | |
|----------------------|---|----|----------|------------------------|---|----------|--------------------|
| | Yes | No | On going | If yes, period covered | Completed | On going | To be finalised by |
| South Africa | x | | | | | x | Jan-02 |
| Angola | x | | | | | x | juin-02 |
| Benin | x | | | | | | Fév-02 |
| Botswana | | | | | | | |
| Burkina Faso | x | | | 2000-2009 | | x | Sept-01 |
| Burundi | X | | | | | | Juin-02 |
| Cameroon | X | | | | | x | - |
| Cap Vert | X | | | | | x | Oct-02 |
| Central Africa | X | | | | | | Juil-02 |
| Comoros (Islands) | x | | | | | x | févr-02 |
| Congo | X | | | 2000-2002 | | | Dec-02 |
| Congo (DR) | x | | | | | | Juil-02 |
| Côte d'Ivoire | X | | | 1997-2010 | | x | dec-01 |
| Djibouti | x | | | 2001-2010 | | x | Dec-01 |
| Eritrea | x | | | | | x | Dec-01 |
| Ethiopia | | | | | | | |
| Gabon | - | | | | | x | Sept-02 |
| Gambia | X | | | 1998-2005 | | x | Mars-02 |
| Ghana | | | | | | | |
| Guinea | X | | | | | x | déc-01 |
| Guinea Bissau | | | | | | x | juin-02 |
| Equatorial Guinea | X | | | | | x | jan-02 |
| Kenya | x | | | | | x | Juin-02 |
| Lesotho | X | | | | | x | - |
| Liberia | X | | | 2000-2010 | | x | déc-01 |
| Madagascar | | | | | | | Mai-02 |
| Malawi | x | | | | | x | Mai-02 |
| Mali | X | | | 2000-2008 | | x | Mars-02 |
| Mauritius (Isles) | X | | | | | x | Juin-02 |
| Mozambique | x | | | | | x | Juin-02 |
| Namibia | x | | | | | | Sept-02 |
| Niger | X | | | 2001-2010 | | x | Dec-01 |
| Nigeria | | | x | | | x | sept-01 |
| Uganda | x | | | | | x | Fev-02 |
| Rwanda | x | | | | | x | Dec-01 |
| Sao Tome et Principe | x | | | | | x | sept-02 |
| Senegal | x | | | 2000-2010 | x | - | - |
| Seychelles | x | | | | | x | Mars-01 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|---|-----------|--|---|----------|
| Sierra Leone | x | | | | | x | déc-01 |
| Somalia | | | | | | | |
| Swaziland | x | | | | | X | Sept-02 |
| Tanzania (RU) | | | | | | x | Avril-02 |
| Thad | x | | | 2001-2004 | | | Dec-02 |
| Togo | | | x | | | x | Août-02 |
| Zambia | | | x | | | x | Juin-02 |
| Zimbabwe | x | | | | | x | déc-01 |

NB: 42 countries have replied to the questionnaire
36 countries have a National Education plan, 33 have started elaborating an EFA-NAP and one country has completed and validated its EFA-NAP