

**Eighth Meeting of the Working Group on  
Education for All  
UNESCO Headquarters, Paris**

**14-16 November 2007**

**Room X**

**Final Agenda**



# P r o v i s i o n a l   A g e n d a

## **Focus on outcomes**

Being at the mid-way towards 2015, the sequence of the key meetings of the key EFA mechanisms has been reorganized this year. The Eighth Meeting of the Working Group on EFA will focus on specific outcomes: working with the evidence of the 2008 EFA Global Monitoring Report (GMR), still under embargo in November, to identify strategic policy priorities for the coming year. These will take the form of recommendations to the Seventh Meeting of the High-Level Group on EFA (Dakar, Senegal, 11-13 December 2007). The 2008 GMR will present an overall review of EFA progress, with the official launch on 12 December during the HLG meeting. Meanwhile, the International Advisory Panel (IAP) on EFA, which has replaced the former 'sherpa' group, has been created by UNESCO to guide the year-round process of preparing, conducting and following up the main annual EFA events.

The HLG on EFA continues to serve as a lever for political commitment and technical and financial resource mobilization; the Working Group on EFA will fulfil its technical role by preparing for the HLG meeting. It will discuss the HLG agenda and seek to agree on key policy recommendations to take forward to the HLG meeting, drawing upon the contributions of representatives of the main EFA constituencies including countries, development banks, civil society and the private sector, as well as multilateral and bilateral organizations. The Working Group is also expected to identify the core elements of the HLG Communiqué and to reflect on the further integration of programmes and initiatives of different partners such as EFA-FTI and UNICEF in the follow-up to the six Dakar goals.

## **Expected Results**

The Working Group will have agreed on:

- The provisional agenda of the High-Level Group on EFA
- Key policy recommendations to take forward to the HLG meeting
- Core elements of the HLG Communiqué.
- Effective ways to strengthen linkages of programmes and initiatives of different EFA partners

## Wednesday, 14 November

8:30 – 9:30 am            **Registration**

### Opening Session

9:30 – 9:45 am            **Opening Statement:** Mr Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General, UNESCO

9:45 – 10:00 am        **Introduction – Overview of agenda and outcomes:**  
Mr Nicholas Burnett, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO

### Plenary Session

10:00 – 10:45 am        **Key messages from EFA Global monitoring Report 2008:**  
Mr Keith Hinchliffe, Acting Director of the EFA Global Monitoring Report

10:45 – 11:00 am        Coffee break

### Plenary Session

11:00 am – 12:15 pm    **Questions to Mr Hinchliffe and comments**

12:15 – 1:00 pm        **Introduction to group work - Aims and organization,**  
Mr Mark Richmond, Director, ED/UNP

1:00 – 2:30 pm        **Lunch** (Hosted by UNESCO DG)

2:30 – 3:30 pm        **Thematic workshop I: Gender parity**  
Presenter: Robert Smith, United Nations Girls' Education Initiative  
Moderator: Elizabeth Heen, Norad/UNGEI

### Working Session

3:30 – 6:00 pm        **Group Work: Discussion by key theme/messages**  
**Output: draft policy recommendation for HLG**

The EFA Global Monitoring Report 2008, entitled *EFA by 2015: will we make it?*, will provide an overview of EFA progress, stating that despite continued global advance since Dakar, data show the scale of the challenges in achieving the six EFA goals, with uneven performance across the goals and across the countries. An estimated 129 countries including those facing conditions of fragility are far from achieving the EFA goals. While the issue of universal access to primary education (UPE) remains as a challenge, the equity and quality dimension of basic education deserves and requires more attention. A holistic and balanced approach to the full range of EFA goals is a key in our endeavours to achieve EFA at international, regional, national and local levels. Moreover, informed policy-making and its efficient implementation, in harmony with overall national policies, are critical, demanding, on the one hand, fine analysis of the status based on accurate data and statistics and, on the other, robust education systems. Although success in attaining the EFA goals depends, above all, on the will, efforts, commitment and resources of countries, it is evident that without adequate and effective support from the international community, the EFA goals cannot be met by 2015. This working session will focus on three priority issues highlighted by the Global Monitoring Report 2008 in order to determine the direction and approaches towards 2015. Each group will also consider a cross-cutting theme as



11:00 – 11:20 am Coffee break

**Plenary Session**

11:20 am – 1:00 pm **(Continued) Reports from groups to Plenary (10 minutes / group)**  
**Questions, debate, comments**

1:00 – 3:00 pm **Lunch** (Moderators: Consolidate group output into one text)

**Working Session**

3:00 – 5:00 pm **Group Work (3 Groups): Reduce/sharpen text into small number of key policy recommendations**

**Group 1** Moderator: Phyllis Magrab, Georgetown University

**Group 2** Moderator: Lynn Murphy, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

**Group 3** Moderator: Ronald Siebes, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

**Plenary Session**

5:00 – 6:00 pm **Discussions on key recommendations from groups**

Moderator: Dankert Vedeler, Ministry of Education and Research, Norway

6:00 pm Moderators: revise text

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**Friday, 16 November 2007**

9:00 – 10:00 am **Thematic workshop III: Education, poverty and the MDGs**

Presenter: Barbara Bruns, World Bank

Moderator: Bernhard Kühn, Germany Federal Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation

**Plenary Session**

10:00 – 11:00 am **Agreement on key recommendations to take forward to HLG on EFA**

Moderator: Cream Wright, UNICEF

11:00 – 11:45 am **Coffee break** (Moderators: produce final text)

**Plenary Session**

11:45 am – 12:30 pm **Adoption of text**  
**Subsequent process**

12:30 pm **Depart**

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