

Statement from the Government of Senegal

Delivered by Kalidou Diallo, Minister of Preschool, Primary and Lower Secondary Education and National Languages

I would like to begin my remarks by commending, in clear and emphatic terms, the work done by the Global Partnership for Education that has permitted countries such as Senegal — through very strong political resolve and sustained efforts, Senegal has invested more than 40 percent of its budget in education — to benefit from the support of the partners in order to improve teaching and learning conditions.

My statement relates to the achievement of the goals of the partnership. In my capacity as a member of the Partnership's Board of Directors and also as the current Chairman of CONFEMEN [Conference of Francophone Education Ministers], I pledge to contribute effectively to the Partnership's shining success, through activities supported by communication and advocacy.

Using a strategic communication and community outreach action plan, I intend to use every avenue as well as the relations I have established to ensure that the effort to reposition the partnership is a resounding success, through the adoption of new strategic guidelines.

In Kigali, the GPE firmly resolved to undertake a repositioning effort, which led to paradigm shifts. Having become a global partnership for education, the GPE has managed to assess the context and redefine the strategic intervention areas. The education of girls, fragile States, and the quality of and improvement in student outcomes are all strategic guidelines adopted by the GPE with the aim of achieving Education for All (EFA).

Senegal, like other countries striving for universal primary education, has received support from all the partners since 2007. All these efforts, taken as a whole, have allowed us to accelerate the rate of increase in student numbers by improving access conditions, in particular by reducing provisional shelters. Now more than ever, Senegal is cognizant of the urgent need for the Global Partnership for Education to continue to support developing countries.

For this reason, and in my capacity as a member of the Board of Directors, I will make every effort to ensure that the goals the Global Partnership for Education are achieved.