

PLEDGE FROM IRELAND

GPE Second Replenishment Conference

June 26, 2014

Our pledge:

- *Ireland will contribute 16 million Euro (4 million Euro per annum for the next four years) to the Global Partnership for Education.*
- The strategic priorities of the GPE, are aligned with Ireland's policy focus in education: reaching the marginalised; improving quality; and ensuring progress on girls' education.
- Ireland's commitment to education has been reaffirmed in our new policy on international development: One World One Future. In the policy we recognise the importance of continuing our work in primary education and we also recognise the importance of secondary education and the need to ensure that education systems are geared to respond to the demands of emerging labour markets in developing countries.
- We believe, as you do, that a quality education is a fundamental right for all girls and boys and that the education of girls in particular, has far reaching effects on family and child health and nutrition. Ireland will pursue this policy priority in funding choices and in policy dialogue to partners in bilateral support programmes and through engagement with the Global Partnership for Education.
- Ireland is fully aware that many of the worlds out of school children are in the 'hard to reach' group, those isolated by a number of factors including fragility. Ireland sees its support to the Global Partnership for Education as an important strategy to support education in fragile contexts.

May I join others in wishing us all a successful pledging event today.