GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP for EDUCATION

Meeting of the Board of Directors-Rev.1
Washington D.C.
October 16, 2015

FINAL DECISIONS
Rev. 1 – Revisions are marked in red

BOD/2015/10-01 – Independent Evaluation of the Global Partnership for Education:
The Board of Directors:

1. formally received the Independent Evaluation Report at its meeting;
2. welcomes the findings and recommendations of the Independent Evaluation Report and expresses appreciation for the work completed by the Independent Evaluators and the Independent Evaluation Committee;
3. considers that the Independent Evaluation represents value for money and provides timely and effective recommendations for consideration during the development of the Global Partnership's new five-year Strategic Plan (2016 – 2020);
4. considers that the structure and functioning of the Independent Evaluation Committee reporting to the Board has proved effective in ensuring the quality and independence of the evaluation; and
5. requests that the Secretariat prepare a draft Board response to the evaluation for approval at the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting.

BOD/2015/10-02 – GPE Operational Model: The Board of Directors:

1. approves the recommendations and actions as set out in **BOD/2015/10 Doc 06-Decision** to strengthen the GPE Operational Model; and
2. requests the Secretariat to work with the relevant standing Committees as set out in **BOD/2015/10 Doc 06-Decision** to execute the recommendations and actions stated therein by the agreed dates.

BOD/2015/10-03 – Strengthening Education Sector Plans: The Board of Directors:

1. emphasizes that the development and adoption of an Education Sector Plan (ESP) is the responsibility of the government and re-iterates the importance of GPE support to developing country partners for the development of robust ESPs;
2. agrees that an independent assessment should be used in order to strengthen ESPs and improve GPE financing decisions;
3. requests the Secretariat to develop options for decision at the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting for a costed proposal for the independent assessment of ESPs taking into account the following:

a. the independent assessment needs to be linked to the support provided to the planning process, including education sector analysis, by the Secretariat and Partners;
b. the timing of the independent assessment should allow for suggested improvements to be considered on a timely basis in the finalization of the sector plan;
c. the independent assessment should contribute to building capacity and include a mechanism to capture and share lessons learned across the Partnership;
d. the findings of the assessment should be incorporated into the quality assurance review process for consideration by the CGPC and Board; and
e. the timing and sourcing of expertise should balance the need for country ownership and independence.

BOD/2015/10-04 – <u>Knowledge and Good Practice Exchange</u>: The Board of Directors:

1. endorses the Global Partnership's global and cross-national role as convener, advocate, broker and funder of knowledge and best practice in areas critical to the achievement of the Global Partnership's Strategic Goals;
2. agrees to appoint the Strategy and Policy Committee to work with the Secretariat to define the Partnership's role in these areas and prepare a costed options paper by the June 2016 Board meeting, taking into consideration the following principles:
   a. close alignment with the Goals and Objectives of the Strategic Plan 2016-2020;
   b. a focus on country needs, ownership and sustainability;
   c. drawing on our operations, experience, expertise and strengths of the Partnership; and
   d. learning from past experience, in particular the Global and Regional Activities Program and the reports on it.

BOD/2015/10-05 – <u>Draft Strategic Plan</u>: The Board of Directors:

1. considered proposed changes to the Vision, Mission, Goals, Objectives and Principles, including those set out in BOD/2015/10 DOC 07;
2. welcomed the draft Theory of Change and considered proposed improvements to the draft Theory of Change and Results Framework;
3. mandates Board Reference Group 2 to work with the Secretariat to finalize a Strategic Plan that includes the Theory of Change and Results Framework and is aligned with the amended GPE Operational Model by October 31, 2015 taking into consideration deliberations at the October 14-16, 2015 Board Retreat and subsequent comments from Board members and Alternate Board members and to add sections on Scope/Scale, Strategic Financing, and Knowledge and Good Practice Exchange for decision at the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting; and

4. mandates the Secretariat to receive and aggregate comments on a draft Strategic Plan, Theory of Change and Results Framework mid to late November 2015 and prepare a proposed list of changes in advance of the December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting.

BOD/2015/10-06 – <u>The Global Partnership for Education and Sustainable Development Goal4: A Strategic Alignment</u>:

The Global Partnership for Education endorses the new level of ambition of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4) which states:

"Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and provide lifelong learning opportunities for all"

The Global Partnership acknowledges that its work must align with SDG4.

In the five-year period covered by its 2016-2020 Strategic Plan, the Global Partnership will build this alignment in the following ways:

Planning

The Global Partnership will support the development of governments' education sector plans that align with SDG4.

Graduation

The Global Partnership needs to review its graduation criteria in the light of SDG4 and the Global Partnership's contributions to it. The Board will consider a paper on possible new approaches and criteria at its meeting in December 2016. The Board will ensure it is informed by the methodology used by other global funds.

Financing

The Global Partnership will actively seek to mobilize additional resources from both domestic and international sources, including public and private partners. The Global Partnership's next replenishment is due in 2018. However, the partnership believes that the seeking of new funding must be an on-going process. The Global Partnership intends to work closely with the International Commission on Financing Global Education to ensure the Commission's September 2016 Report has a high degree of impact. The Global Partnership will consider the recommendations of the Commission and the opportunities therein.

The Global Partnership recognizes that it needs to explore the potential to diversify its sources of finance to address GPE Priorities. It will consider at its December 8-10, 2015 Board meeting a preliminary paper on strategic financing. This paper will outline safeguards and principles around restricted financial contributions, early analysis of comparator organizations and issues such as additionality, leveraging, co-financing and innovative financing. The paper will also consider financing of knowledge and good practice exchange.

The resources pledged at the 2014 GPE Replenishment Pledging Conference will continue to be focused on existing eligible activities and countries. The GPE Operational Model will be strengthened in line with BOD/2015/10-02 in order to ensure greater effectiveness of the use of these funds. The Results Framework being finalized in December 2015 will be used for monitoring and reporting.

Prioritization

The Global Partnership recognizes that, no matter how successful any fundraising efforts may be, decisions will always need to be made on funding priorities. The Global Partnership will, taking into account the priorities of the partner country, make decisions on the basis of what most effectively maximizes equity, quality and learning outcomes in accordance with the GPE funding model. In the allocation of funds raised in future funding cycles, such criteria will necessarily mean a continuing focus on and majority of funding for basic education (meaning at least one year of pre-primary, primary, lower secondary and second chance education). However, in some contexts the Global Partnership recognizes that equity issues in upper secondary education and a more comprehensive view of early childhood development, care and pre-primary education, will be appropriate for the Global Partnership to fund.

Education in Emergencies

The Board notes the ongoing work of the Technical Strategy Group on Education in Emergencies and Protracted Crises and recognizes the importance of addressing this critical issue in a timely manner. The outcomes of the Technical Strategy Group and the advocacy of political champions will inform future Board decision-making.