DECEMBER 5 AND 6, 2023

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA

FINAL DECISIONS

Reference	Decisions
BOD/2023/12-01	**Institutional Arrangements** The Board of Directors: 1. Refers to its decision on institutional arrangements from January 2023 (BOD/2023/01-01) and welcomes the progress made on exploring options that could achieve potential cost savings, facilitate new fundraising instruments, and provide greater operational flexibility as requested; 2. Thanks the World Bank for its willingness to continue hosting the Secretariat for the foreseeable future, and 3. Mandates the Secretariat to further explore such fundraising approaches and operational flexibility in the context of developing its next strategic plan and approach to financing and funding and welcomes the World Bank's commitment to support GPE in this process. 4. Considering progress made to secure a reduction in the hosting cost recovery fee, the ability to source support from non-sovereign donors, and agreement to explore options to strengthen country systems, agrees that the Secretariat should remain hosted by the World Bank for the foreseeable future on the same terms as the current MOU, noting that the board retains the ability to review such arrangements. 5. Mandates the CEO to work with the World Bank to extend the hosting memorandum of understanding before its expiry and without renegotiating the MOU make any necessary procedural updates to reflect agreements reached since it was originally signed. 6. Requests the Secretariat to report back to the Board in June 2024 on progress, including options for fundraising approaches and operational

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<tr><td></td><td>flexibility for the next strategic plan period for Board consideration by December 2024.</td></tr>
<tr><td>BOD/2023/12-02</td><td>Increased Multiplier and SmartEd Initiative envelopes

The Board of Directors:

1. Notes the projected available resources as outlined in the financial forecast (BOD/2023/12 DOC 04) and the significant demand and success of the GPE Multiplier to date.

2. Approves an increase in the Multiplier envelope for the GPE2025 financing period from US$ 755 million to US$950 million.

3. Based on initial satisfactory progress of the ACG-SmartEd initiative approved by the Board in December 2020 (BOD/2020/11/12-06), authorizes the CEO to increase the overall envelope from the Multiplier to the SmartEd initiative from US$100 million to US$150 million subject to availability of funds, and evidence that this is likely to generate at least US$600 million in new and additional co-financing from members of the Arab Coordination Group.

4. Emphasizes the importance of hardwiring gender equality through the Multiplier, and to prioritize opportunities for Low-Income Countries to access these resources.</td></tr>
<tr><td>BOD/2023/12-03</td><td>Eligibility and Allocation for Lebanon and Jordan

The Board of Directors:

1. Recalls decision BOD/2020/11/12/04 and notes that Lebanon, and Jordan would now meet the eligibility criteria for GPE funding established by the Board.

2. Considering the change in economic classification and the demands of hosting a significant proportion of refugees on the education systems of both countries, exceptionally approves eligibility for the following grants under GPE2025:

<table>
<tr><td>Country</td><td>System Capacity Grant</td><td>Multiplier</td></tr>
<tr><td>Lebanon</td><td>US$1.6 million</td><td>US$5 million</td></tr>
<tr><td>Jordan</td><td>US$2.3 million</td><td>US$15 million</td></tr>
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BOD/2023/12-04	**Girls' Education Accelerator** The Board of Directors: 1. Recalls decision BOD/2020/11/12/05 to establish the Girls Education Accelerator (GEA) as a targeted financing mechanism to provide additional resources to support girls' education in a subset of GPE eligible countries with the most need. 2. Reaffirms that a GEA allocation is always additional to a System Transformation Grant and/or Multiplier allocation and reaffirms that gender equality is hardwired under GPE2025 irrespective of a countries eligibility for, or ability to access GEA funding. 3. Notes that GEA funding was subject to availability of resources based on targeted financial contributions, and that demonstrated demand for the GEA has now exceeded such resources. 4. Mandates the Secretariat to identify alternative opportunities to allow for increased allocations to the GEA, for example through earmarking donor contributions or through allocating surplus envelopes. 5. Calls on GPE partners to increase their funding to the GEA to allow for the maximum number of countries to benefit from this initiative. 6. Notes that any additional funding pledged to the GEA will be indicatively allocated to support eligible countries based on the order in which strategic parameters for the GEA have been approved by the Board.
BOD/2023/12-05	**Revision to the accreditation process** The Board of Directors: 1. Recalls decision BOD/2013/11-09 to expand eligibility criteria for grant agents and decision BOD/2023/01-01 calling on GPE to engage with the World Bank around options for achieving greater operational flexibility. 2. Emphasizes the importance of diversifying the range of organizations that can act as grant agent to best support partner country needs. 3. Approves the revision of the initial screening criteria for not-for-profit organizations to include philanthropic funds as an acceptable source of funding when assessing the organization's experience in managing donor funded projects. 4. Noting the importance of a level playing field with respect to grant agent selection, the robustness of the GPE quality assurance processes, and the desire to reduce unnecessary transaction costs, removes the requirement to conduct an additional grant level assessment for not-for-profit organizations.