Speech of H.E. ZHANG Xun,
Chinese Ambassador in Senegal
and Head of the Chinese delegation,
for the 3rd Global Partnership for Education Financing Conference

(Dakar, February 2, 2018)

Madam Chairperson,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be representing the Chinese government at this Conference. On behalf of my government, I thank our hosts for this invitation.

As a developing country, China considers education development as a key strategic priority. With continuous efforts, the Chinese education sector has progressed on all counts. Education access, equity and quality have been continuously strengthened. Yet, China is facing development disparities in education, and a lot remains to be done, in particular in the Western regions.

Simultaneously, China continues to focus on exchanges and cooperation with other developing countries in the education sector. For many years, and in many different ways, China has been leading cooperation projects to build education infrastructures, train human resources, etc.

As part of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, China has built more than 150 schools and close to 20 regional vocational training centers. Each year, China supplies 10,000 state scholarships to African countries, and hosts over 15,000 Africans so they can train in China. In 2018, China will host the next Forum on China-Africa Cooperation summit in Beijing.

Our country will continue to capitalize on education cooperation with African countries.

Madam Chairperson,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

This is the first time China participated in the GPE Financing Conference. China acknowledges, and is grateful for, GPE's active contributions to education development in developing countries. Madam Chairperson, since you took office, GPE and China have intensified constructive discussions and communication. As the largest developing country, China intends on carrying out pragmatic cooperation with the GPE to strengthen education equity and quality in order to promote global education.

Thank you very much.