GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP for EDUCATION

BOD/2014/02—DOC 03
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Audio Conference
10 February 2014

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION GRANT ALLOCATION

DECISION

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to notify the Board of Directors of a discrepancy between the November 2013 GPE Board Document "BOD/2013/11/DOC06B -Report of the Financial Advisory Committee, Part 2" and the Program Implementation Grant application submitted by Cameroon and approved by the Board of Directors in November 2013 (BOD/2013/11-21).

The Board is asked to consider amending the length of the Program Implementation Grant allocation to Cameroon and as a result to increase the supervision allocation to the World Bank accordingly to correct this discrepancy.

2. RECOMMENDED DECISION

The Board of Directors is asked to consider approval of the following decision:

In reference to its decision (BOD/2013/11-21 –Approval of Allocations for Program Implementation Grants), the Board of Directors approves the amendment of the implementation period for the program implementation grant allocation to Cameroon from three years to four years, and increases the supervision allocation to the World Bank as Supervising Entity from US$400,000 to US$500,000.

3. INFORMATION

3.1. Cameroon submitted an application for a Program Implementation Grant that was reviewed by the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) and approved by the Board in November 2013. The submitted application included a request for a **four-year** implementation period. The FAC report to the Board, which became the basis for the GPE Board decision noted the planned implementation period to be **three** years instead of **four**.

3.2 Accordingly, the supervision allocation that was approved at the time (US$400,000) was the amount that would correspond to a three-year implementation period instead of the amount that would normally be awarded for a four-year implementation period (US$500,000).

3.3 The Secretariat identified the reasons for the discrepancy which are outlined below:

- The four year implementation period was not specifically documented in the Final Readiness Review that was submitted to the FAC.
- In addition, the Secretariat did not inform the FAC verbally during its presentation to the FAC at its meeting in October 2013 of a request for a longer implementation period.
- As a result, the draft FAC report and recommended decision was prepared on the basis of a standard three year implementation period and supervision allocation. While the draft report was shared with the Country Support Team before submission to the Board, the discrepancy was not identified until after the Board approved the decision.

3.4 The Secretariat has amended its processes to seek to avoid similar problems in the future.

4 Rationale for four year implementation period

4.1 Cameroon has requested a longer implementation period due to the nature of the Program Development Objectives (PDOs). In order to measure learning outcomes, which are part of the PDOs, all partners agreed that the project requires three full school years - September 2014 to August 2017 - and then time to assess the learning outcomes for the final year.

4.2 The Secretariat notes that the FAC has recommended and Board approved four year implementation periods for allocations to Niger and Gambia in November 2013, based on issues related to complexity of activities, and alignment with country planning cycles.