World Humanitarian Summit
Commitment Statement by the Hon. Julia Gillard, Chair of the Global Partnership for Education

24 May 2016

The Global Partnership for Education (or 'GPE') is committed to delivering Core Responsibilities 3, 4 and 5 of the Agenda for Humanity and to ensuring every girl and boy receives a quality education, including in emergencies and protracted crisis situations.

Yesterday, Education Cannot Wait: A Fund for Education in Emergencies was launched here at the World Humanitarian Summit. As GPE Board Chair, I was delighted to participate in this launch and to serve together with UN Special Envoy Gordon Brown and UNICEF's Executive Director Tony Lake as a political champion in the lead up.

GPE has campaigned for this new fund and is wholeheartedly committed to its success. Education Cannot Wait is aiming to unlock the political and financial commitments needed to deliver quality education to all children and youth in emergencies and protracted crises by 2030. Already, commitments of US$ 90 million dollars have been made and these stand alongside the work of the Global Business Coalition for Education, which is mobilizing US$100 million dollars in financial and relevant in – kind contributions.

GPE will both support Education Cannot Wait, for which UNICEF has agreed to be the interim host, and continue our work providing financial and technical support to the 28 fragile and/or conflict affected countries that are among our 65 eligible developing country partners. Through this work GPE will support education sector plans that reinforce emergency readiness, preparedness and resilience. In particular, GPE commits to:

- First, support countries in crisis through its accelerated financing mechanism, which makes it possible for countries with an existing GPE grant allocation to draw down up to 20% of their funding to meet immediate needs related to the crisis.
- Second, work with our crisis country partners to restructure grants in light

of emergency needs; and

- Third, to support transitional sector planning when countries are emerging out of a crisis, working to link development and humanitarian actors.

GPE also commits to support developing country partners to improve gender equality in education, and in particular to conduct gender analyses to inform the most effective strategies to promote gender equality in particular contexts, including humanitarian and protracted crisis settings.

GPE is committed to working together to create a world where no child or young person will have her or his education ended or interrupted because of an emergency and crisis, and to ensure that no one is left behind.