

European Commission

Short pledging statement at VVIP segment, GPE, Dakar,
2 February 2018

Around the world, 264 million girls and boys who should be at school today - **are not**.

Because of poverty, conflict, discrimination, and many other crises.

We are all responsible.

And today we **all** have an opportunity to **turn a new page**.

To ensure that children being denied an education is something we only read about in **history books**.

The Global Partnership for Education is the leading global fund dedicated to delivering quality education to **those left farthest behind**.

From Cambodia to Côte d'Ivoire, and from Ethiopia to Yemen, the Partnership provides training, advice, infrastructure - **and above all hope!**

The European Union has made our support for the Partnership – and for quality education – **clear**.

I have the honour to announce that in the **2018-2020 period** we will **disburse 337.5 million euros** (more than 400 million dollars) as the EU's contribution to achieving the GPE objectives. The overall amount of our GPE pledge for **2014-2020** is **475 million euros**.

And we will **continue to invest heavily** in quality education for all, through **all other instruments** at our disposal.

To help **write a new chapter**.

To **transform** communities.

To **empower** girls and women.

And to ensure a **better future for all**.

Just like a butterfly can create a tornado...

... **every** educated child has the **power to change the world!**

So what are we waiting for?

Let's invest in education, **now, and for the future!**

(234 words)