

3rd September 2019

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**Alice Albright
Chief Executive Officer
Global Partnership for Education**

Dear Ms. Alice Albright,

**Subject: Endorsement of Kenya National Education Sector Strategic Plan (NESSP)
2018-2022**

On behalf of the Education Development Partners Coordination Group (EDCPG) in Nairobi, Kenya, this letter serves as endorsement of the five (5) year National Education Sector Strategic Plan (NESSP) for Kenya.

We commend the collaborative approach taken to develop the NESSP for Kenya, as the plan is a product of a highly participatory and consultative process. The NESSP outlines key policy outcomes in the areas of access, equity, quality, relevance, governance and accountability as well as pertinent and contemporary issues. These are consistent with our vision and objectives for the sector. With this letter, we give our commitment to align investments with the objectives articulated in the plan.

We note that the Ministry has addressed most of the recommendations made in the appraisal report. Additionally, the NESSP is a living document that will be adapted on a rolling basis, thus enabling commitments and milestones to be reviewed and adjusted. We are confident that the annual Joint Reviews of the Education Sector, (JRES) aimed at monitoring the NESSP implementation will feed into this process, especially in the monitoring of policy and strategy implementation and review of annual implementation Plans.

We recommend that the Kenya Government reviews the projected share of education in the budget over the implementation period of the plan in order to offer a growth path commensurate with annual increase in the national budget.

While the prevailing economic capacity is appreciated, it is desirable that the reviews demonstrate government commitment to progressively increase domestic share of resources and investments to education.

As planning and implementation proceeds, the Education Development Partners Coordinating Group (EDPCG) recommends the Ministry's continued reflection in the following areas.

1. Expansion of access and equity to education and training: With regional and gender disparities in Gross Enrollment Rate (GER) and Net Enrollment Rate (NER), targeted

measures are necessary to expand education opportunities for school age children in Kenya. The government should identify outliers for replication and constraints that lie ahead to adapt interventions. Vulnerable groups mentioned in the NESSP such as girls, children with special needs and disabilities, children from nomadic communities as well as those affected by conflicts and cyclical emergencies like drought and floods should be given particular attention. We recognize that the plan proposes key strategies to address challenges related to access, equity and participation in education and training and these could be achieved through strengthened partnerships and enhanced coordination mechanisms.

2. Addressing concerns in quality and learning outcomes: Monitoring Learner Achievements Studies have pointed to the need to continuously improve the quality of education. Substantial proportions of learners in early grade, upper primary and lower secondary in Kenya do not attain the minimum proficiency levels in numeracy and literacy. There is the need to improve the quality of education through conducting learning assessments to regularly monitor learning outcomes and inform on areas that need improvement. There is also need to improve the quality of education through developing targeted programmes that improve teaching and learning. The government needs to operationalize school based teacher support especially at lower grades in order to enhance acquisition of early grade mathematics competencies among teachers and learners.
3. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework: We recommend that annual implementation plans are better prioritized and supported by a strong M & E framework. We urge continued stakeholders consultation in the framework of the EDCPG, Pillar Working Groups and JRES while taking into account analytical work that may be available during implementation of the NESSP. We also appreciate that the implementation of the NESSP will be done through a multi-sectoral approach involving all the relevant stakeholders. The policy priorities, goals, and programmes identified in this plan will contribute to the realization of the aspirations of Kenya through improved learning outcomes.

Herein find attached the:

- Participants list of EDCPG, Nairobi
- The Kenya National Education Sector Strategic Plan 2018-2022
- Minutes of EDPCG, Nairobi meeting

Yours sincerely,



Ann Therese Ndong-Jatta,
Director and Representative

CC:

Prof. George A. O. Magoha, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Education, Kenya

Dr. Belio R. Kipsang, Principal Secretary Ministry of Education, Kenya

Mr. Elyas Abdi, Director General Ministry of Education, Kenya

Fazle Rabani, GPE Kenya Country Lead

World Bank- GPE grant agency-Kenya