STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AND LITERACY, REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

June 2014
The Republic of Guinea is preparing a Second Education Sector Program (2015-2017) whose total cost is estimated at USD 1.53 billion with contributions from the Government (USD 764 M), GPE (37.8 M), AFD (14.9 M) and UNICEF/FC (1 M), as well as external contributions. The requested funding is of USD 80 million.

The primary goal of the program is to:

(i) Enhance basic education equitable access: the gross Enrollment Rate in primary education will reach 94.0% in 2017 (84.1% in 2013), 88% in rural areas (from 69% in 2013), and gender parity rate will be 0.95 (from 0.88 in 2013)

(ii) Improve education quality: the Completion Rate will increase from 58.7% to 70.7% (girls: 50.9% to 62.2%); and

(iii) Build sector management capacity.

To this end, the Government efforts will focus on: i) classroom building in primary and early secondary schools, particularly in rural areas; ii) teacher training, recruiting (3,000 annually) and incentive; iii) school enrollment incentives especially for girls, disabled and vulnerable children, as well as children in emergency situations; iv) free school textbook distribution; v) educational innovations; and vi) school funding.

Furthermore, the production of statistics will be improved (punctuality, quality, and availability) through capacity building and website creation.

Regular student achievement assessment through standardized testing will also be developed with the country's participation in the next set of PASEC assessments, as well as result dissemination and recommendations for solution implementation.

Finally, the Government pledges to: i) increase public funding of education from 15.2% in 2013 to 19.2% in 2017 (from 3.2% to 4.6% of GDP) and primary education share from 43.3% to 46.3%; and ii) reform public finances (deconcentration and governance building). Through the budgetary increase, schools, especially in low enrollment areas, will be provided with teachers in sufficient numbers with appropriate in-service training and educational supervision.