March 17, 2011

Hon. HE Farooq Wardak
Ministry of Education
Afghanistan

Education for All - Fast Track Initiative
Welcome Letter: Afghanistan

Dear Honorable HE Farooq Wardak:

On behalf of the FTI donor partners, I am pleased to inform you that the Education for All – Fast Track Initiative welcomes Afghanistan to the FTI Partnership following the appraisal and endorsement of your country’s Interim Education Plan (2011-2013) by the Local Education Group.

For countries such as Afghanistan that have signaled an intent to seek funding through the Fast Track Initiative’s EFA Fund, endorsement of an interim education sector plan is an important step in the process. With the caveat that this step does not itself guarantee funding through the EFA Fund, the FTI Secretariat is happy to confirm our commitment to work with the Local Education Group and the Government of Afghanistan for the purpose of helping to accelerate your country’s progress toward the goals of Education for All.

Please accept our warmest congratulations for the achievement of this important milestone. We encourage your team to visit our website (www.educationfasttrack.org) for updated information about the EFA FTI Partnership. The FTI Secretariat is available to answer any further questions. The contact person in the FTI Secretariat for your country is Mr. Alberto Begué who can be contacted by phone at: (202) 473-6735; by fax at: (202) 522-3233; and via e-mail at: abegue@educationfasttrack.org. In his absence, you may also contact Ms. Sandra Barton, who can be joined by phone at: (202) 458-2050 and at: sbarton@educationfasttrack.org.

We wish you success in the implementation of the Interim Education Plan.

Sincerely,

Robert Prouty
Head
EFA-FTI Secretariat
Distribution:

Members of the Local Education Group in Afghanistan
FTI Board of Directors
EFA FTI Secretariat
Mr. Amit Dar, Sector Manager, South Asia Region, World Bank
Mr. Olav Rex Christensen, Senior Public Finance Specialist, Human Development Network, World Bank