THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

This document aims to clarify the overall process of how to become a Partner of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and how to join a constituency.

GPE brings together five categories of partners: the developing country partners, donors, multilateral agencies and regional banks, civil society organizations and private sector/foundations. All partners commit to the GPE Compact, which defines the mutual accountability of all GPE partners and to other specific requirements described below.

A constituency-based model means that each seat at the Board represents a large group of countries, networks, companies or institutions. Some constituencies represent a large number of stakeholders, others far fewer. In some, membership is open-ended, such as in the civil society constituencies. In others, membership is very narrowly defined, which is the case of many of the donor constituencies. In some cases, the seat consists of one or two agencies only. All partners belong to a constituency.

1. Step 1: Expression of Interest - Dialogue with GPE Secretariat
2. Step 2: Confirmation of Interest – Commitment to uphold the GPE Compact and any other specific requirements
3. Step 3: Identification of a constituency - Dialogue with GPE Chair
4. Step 4: Notification to the Board
**STEP 1: EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – DIALOGUE WITH GPE SECRETARIAT**

The first step is to express an interest in joining the Global Partnership for Education and to initiate a dialogue with the Secretariat: GPE_Governance_Team@globalpartnership.org

**STEP 2: COMMITMENT TO UPHOLD THE GPE COMPACT AND ANY OTHER SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

The second step for all partners is to commit to uphold the GPE Compact as presented in the GPE Charter. Some categories of partners have additional specific requirements which are described in the Charter. All partners should send a “commitment letter” or equivalent to the chief executive officer of the Secretariat, signed by the minister of education or any other authorized official. This letter should include a specific reference to the GPE Compact and clearly stipulate other commitments.

**The GPE Compact:** Mutual accountability to deliver the following:

**Developing country partners** commit to:

- Develop and implement an evidence-based education sector plan (comprehensive or transitional), including a multi-year costed implementation plan, of good quality that is embedded in the country’s national development strategy through broad-based consultation.
- Provide strong and increased domestic financial support to education.
- Demonstrate results on key performance indicators.

**Donors, multilateral agencies, civil society organizations and private foundations and the private sector** commit to:

- Increase support to government education sector plans, including through technical and financial support
- Assist in mobilizing resources and aligning them with the priorities of developing country partners
- Harmonize procedures and utilize country systems as much as possible.

**STEP 3: IDENTIFICATION OF A CONSTITUENCY**

The third step is to identify a constituency in consultation with the Chair and Board members. An important principle regarding constituency representation is that each of the constituencies is self-governed. In order to ensure that the constituencies act independently in fulfilling their duties for the partnership (without interference from the Secretariat or the Chair),
constituencies manage their own internal processes for how they choose Board members and alternates, consult on positions, and communicate with each other. Some constituencies have instituted a formal process; some operate on a more informal basis. The process itself is dependent on what is practical for that constituency.

While the constituencies are self-governed, there is a process of consultation:

- A candidate should consult with the Chair in order to discuss which constituency they should join. If the candidate is already in a geographical area where there is already an established constituency, the Chair will assign the candidate to that constituency. If it is not immediately apparent which constituency a candidate would join, the Chair will recommend a constituency based on similar interests and maintaining proportional representation across the Board.

- The candidate should then discuss their potential membership with the respective Board member of the particular constituency to obtain their agreement. The Board member of the constituency selected should then formally inform the Chair of the agreement of the constituency to welcome the candidate.

**STEP 4: NOTIFICATION TO THE BOARD**

The Chair of the Board will notify the Board the name of the new member to the Global Partnership for Education, its constituency and the nature of its commitments.
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