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)