

**PLEDGE FROM THE CHILDREN'S INVESTMENT FUND FOUNDATION
GPE Second Replenishment Conference
June 26, 2014**

Michael Anderson speech in Pledging Zone

We are facing lost generations of children in Africa, Asia, and the rest of the world. 250 million children either fail to make it to Grade 4, or fail to reach a minimum level of learning. The human and economic cost of this failure is incalculable.

CIFF's vision for education – a vision we share with the Global Partnership for Education – is to transform the life prospects for this and future generations of children, by ensuring that all children can read, write and do basic mathematics by the time they are 8 or 9 years of age.

The evidence is clear that the foundations for learning begin in the early years. It is for this reason that I will be proud to announce in the parallel session later today a 'Call to Action for Early Childhood Care and Education'. I invite you to endorse this Call to Action, which calls for significantly increased domestic and international investment – including through the GPE – in early childhood education.

I am also proud to tell you that CIFF is committing today up to \$22 million US dollars to the GPE over the 4 year term of this replenishment:

- i. \$20 million to the GPE Fund, to pay for improvements in learning outcomes within performance-based funding of GPE programme implementation grants;
- ii. \$2m to support monitoring and evaluation of performance-based funding of learning outcomes.

Together with other foundations committing resources today, these constitute the first financial commitments to the Global Partnership for Education from private philanthropy .

By paying for improvements in learning outcomes, we are inviting developing country partners to focus their education plans, their investments, and their own accountability, on what should be at the heart of every child's education: learning.