

Annex 2: Planned Statement (2.5 minutes maximum)

Madam Board Chair, Madam Chief Executive
Director, Ladies and gentlemen Ministers,
Dear colleagues,

As you know, education has always been an essential element of French development policy. It is an engaged choice in terms of solidarity and strategy, and it is also the choice of the international community which is aware of the fundamental aspect of Education for All and the Millennium Development Goals. I would like to pay particular tribute to the work accomplished by all partners in favor of universal primary education and gender parity in education.

France has participated in this global mobilization by having contributed € 1.2 billion to education since 2009. The GPE is the most concrete example of this commitment: we are proud to be one of its founding members and to have supported it since its inception (€70M between 2005 and 2014). If we are unfortunately unable to announce today, due to current budgetary constraints, the amount of our financial contribution to the GPE for the 2015-2018 period, rest assured that France will continue to fully support this organization, which stands as a model in terms of collaboration, efficiency and international aid ownership, and of our will to remain committed.

We wish to pursue our collaboration with the GPE, namely through the French Development Agency (AFD). The AFD is a GPE funds supervision entity which has co-financed GPE activities in about ten countries over the last period, and will continue to do so. The AFD bilateral funding for basic education should represent € 300M over the 2015-2018 period, and we shall ensure synergy optimization with bilateral and multilateral funding and francophone organizations.

The French cooperation will accompany the new GPE funding model through 2 key levers for education quality: (i) data collection and analysis for education planning via funding of the Dakar Pole for sector analysis related to the IIEP (€ 5M over the replenishment period), and (ii) learning assessment capacity building via PASEC (€ 4M over the replenishment period).

In order to contribute to the GPE strategic objectives, France will continue investing in favor of learning in national languages in early primary education (ELAN) and teacher training (IFADEM). A new program will fund innovating projects which mobilize information and communication technologies (€ 3M).

I thank you.

* *
*