National Model United Nations Week B

March 24 – March 28, 2013



Economic and Social Council Plenary

Documentation

Economic and Social Council

Committee Staff

Director Ardis Smith
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Agenda

1. Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education

2. Strengthening Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance and Relief

3. Confronting Family Poverty and Social Exclusion

Resolutions adopted by the committee

Document Code	Topic	Vote
		(Y/ N/ Abstention/ Non-Voting)
E/RES/1/1	Finance/Community	Acclamation
E/RES/1/2	Economic incentives	38/5/5
E/RES/1/3	Gender inequality	Acclamation
E/RES/1/4	Education &Conflict	37/7/4
E/RES/1/5	Family Education	44/0/4
E/RES/1/6	Infrastructure	42/3/3
E/Res/1/7	Training & Funding	37/7/4

The Economic and Social Council Plenary Summary Report

The Economic and Social Council Plenary held its annual session to consider the following agenda items: *I. Confronting Family Poverty and Social Exclusion; II. Strengthening Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance and Relief; and III. Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education.*

During the negotiations, the session was attended by representatives of 49 states and 1 observer. The committee adopted the agenda of 3, 2, 1.

On the second day, the body broke off into regional groups and selected five Vice-Presidents to assist the President as members of the Executive Bureau. The delegates chosen for each region were as follows: Ghana, Iraq, Slovakia, Argentina, and Norway. Some of the key themes that arose included: quality of education with a focus on vocational training; discussion of education in times of crisis in order to guarantee safe access to quality education and training; gender equality and perspective in educational systems, including the establishment of mentoring institutions; family investment in education, encouraging focus on marginalized violence in educational settings; economic incentives for investing in education; and access to education through the promotion of family values. By the end of the third session, five working papers were submitted to the Dais, focusing on the topics of quality education, educational infrastructure systems, economic incentives for continuing education, accessible and inclusive education and training, and focus on the family unit as a form of educational incentive.

On the third day, delegates continued to discuss and develop their working papers throughout three extensive committee sessions. Delegates discussed the topic of improving access to education. Throughout the fourth and fifth sessions, four more working papers were submitted, with topics including training and funding for educators, gender inequality, and education in conflict zones. The submission of these working papers brought the total to nine, with two merges between papers bringing the total to six. Of the merges, one focused on the topics of infrastructure, quality education, and scholarships, while the other was centered upon the issues of family education and the training of educators. The committee retained a calm atmosphere and a spirit of cooperation throughout the day and all delegates integrated themselves in discussion with working groups. Additionally, communication between the Dais and delegates was incredibly positive.

The fourth day saw two committee sessions. Three friendly amendments were introduced during the seventh session. Delegates continued to discuss the working papers, and all seven working papers were passed as draft resolutions. The eighth and final session took place at the United Nations. During this session, delegates gathered support for their draft resolutions, and voting procedure took place. Seven resolutions were passed, two were adopted by acclimation, and five through roll call votes that were all adopted with large margins, demonstrating the consensus and collaboration that had taken place throughout all the sessions for this committee.

Code: E/RES/1/1

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Subject: Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education

Addressing the necessity of a follow up to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as stated
 in the United Nations (UN) Millennium Declaration in addition to A/RES/55/2 and A/66/126 that
 expand opportunities for girls to complete primary and secondary education as vital to achieving
 the MDGs.

Understanding the *Millennium Declaration's* MDG 2 which focuses on the achievement of universal access to primary education for all children,

Recalling Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and its statement that free and equal access to primary education is a fundamental and inalienable human right that requires the provision and protection of all Member States,

Guided by Article 55.b of the Charter of the United Nations which includes the mandate of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to find solutions to address international social- and health-related problems and the negative impact that problems of this nature have on access to girls' access to education,

Mindful of the connection between MDG 2 and MDG 3 which concerns gender equity and the cross-cutting ideal of achieving gender equity through learning as inherent in both goals,

Considering the importance of the 2012 World Atlas of Gender Equality in Education and the need to maintain a gender perspective in regard to MDG 2 as it positively impacts both girls and boys,

Having devoted attention to the cultural diversity of each Member State and realizing that a cultural focus is needed when considering gender focused education development,

Acknowledging the significant cultural and physical barriers that exist in developing education worldwide and the need for local and regional solutions for developing countries,

Cognizant of the need to respect cultural heritage and of the significant role that education plays in diminishing child exploitation such as premature marriage as laid out in the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*,

Realizing that the best way to address these issues is through regional cooperation such as through the *Dakar Framework for Action* that sets up six region-specific education frameworks to improve the global education situation and further decentralize education strategies,

Endorsing the integral role that each school should play within its community,

41 Highlighting the need for the achievement of MDG 8 and its global partnership for development
 42 through non-governmental organizations (NGO) in addition to UN bodies and agencies as well

as all other relevant stakeholders in order to further address regional problems and obstacles to educational access including those of a cultural and physical nature and to find local solutions through international cooperation,

Noting the positive impact that the Global Partnership for Education Fund has on developing countries due to its three-step financial and technical assistance framework to improve national education systems,

Further noting the beneficial work that has been done by the Education For All's (EFA) Fast Track Initiative which works directly with developing countries in helping them implement regional educational strategies to promote effective education development,

Affirming the need for increased attention on aid effectiveness and information sharing amongst all Member States according to the scope of EFA's Global Coordination Mechanism which uses information sharing and the spread of effective education by implementing Member State focused assistance and strategies to harmonize efforts and increase the effectiveness of education such as through the Economic Commission for Latin America and regional development banks like the African Development Bank,

Recognizing that sustainable development is necessary in increasing access to education for targeted populations through the creation of safe and reliable modes of transport and access to schools for children in order to encourage consistent attendance,

Further recognizing that mapping existing human assets and patterns of vulnerability is an aspect of planning that must be considered when assessing program effectiveness,

Encouraged by the work done through education incentive programs under the scope of international bodies such as the World Food Programme's (WFP) School Feeding Initiative which adheres to the spirit of the *Charter of the United Nations* of promoting human wellbeing through education,

Emphasizing the importance of educating girls about safe and effective reproductive health practices as this bears particular importance on girls in developing countries through the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) EducAids Programme in order to combat the obstacles of inadequate knowledge of reproductive health leading to a significantly increased dropout rates amongst girls,

The Economic and Social Council,

1) Encourages Member States to incorporate the goals and strategies laid out in the MDGs, including the emphasis of MDG 2 on abolishing primary education fees in developing countries by subsidizing costs through coordinating aid effectiveness of multilateral financial assistance;

2) Recommends that Member States further the implementation of EFA's Fast Track Initiative through increased financial assistance to relieve the obstacles that surround access to education within developing countries;

- 3) Calls for the achievement of MDG 8 through multilateral funding sources, such as the Economic Commission for Latin America, the African Development Bank, and other economic commissions and regional development banks;
- 4) Further recommends that all Member States participate in triangular cooperation including information and technology sharing and financial assistance in order to implement safe and effective transportation infrastructure and the strategic placement of schools, including roads and school buses, to ensure the secure transport of children to and from school;
- 5) *Requests* that the international community renews its efforts in making schools the foundation of communities through:
 - a) Opening primary education buildings to the community as a cultural centre for civic activity, which will create a safe space and legitimize the school, thus spreading a positive image;
 - b) Utilising technology and information sharing to inform the community of activities and programs in the local school systems in order to keep the community in touch and involved with the school;
 - c) Ensuring the further accessibility of education for women and girls, including the provision of flexible hours in order to supplement the different time commitment needs of varying populations in regards to the aforementioned strategic placement of school facilities:
- 6) *Stresses* the importance of self-reliance and establishing links to sustainable education development in both rural and urban areas, doing so by working with international organizations such as the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) in order to train and empower local female teachers;
- 7) Appeals to the international community to hold its education strategies to a high standard and empower all interest groups, including NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to form grassroot, localized education to help schools become integrated parts of the community, as well as to inform girls on post-educational opportunities;
- 8) *Promotes* all Member States to increase financial assistance to the WFP's School Feeding Initiative to increase participation in schools and incentivize attendance with an emphasis on girls' empowerment in formal school education to specifically target MDG 2 target 1.A;

9) Suggests the expansion of UNESCO's EducAids programme by all willing and able Member States through additional financial assistance and the fulfilment of previous commitments, to better combat the hindrances to attendance in schools affecting girls by educating them on safe and effective reproductive health practices;

- 10) *Urges* all Member States to address the obstacles facing the achievement of universal education, specifically gender disparities in school enrollment, by implementing the goals and strategies of the *Dakar Framework for Action* by increasing aid effectiveness;
- 11) *Supports* the free and open flow of ideas and best practices through the utilization of the EFA's Global Coordination Mechanism by implementing country-focused assistance and strategies;
- 12) *Emphasizes* the need to implement policy interventions and programs initiatives seeking to delay early marriage with increasing access to education and labor force including, but not limited to:
 - a) Advocating for the adoption of legal frameworks guaranteeing eight to ten years of uninterrupted basic education, such as those proclaimed by the Basic Education in Africa Programme supported by UNESCO;
 - b) Providing tuition fees and monthly stipends for families with unmarried rural girls as seen by the best practices such as Bangladesh's Female Secondary School Stipend Programme that promotes initiatives by the local government together with developmental partners;
 - c) Promoting female scholarship in order to keep girls in school and diminishing child marriages, keeping in mind as a model the Ethiopian Berhane Hewan Programme supported by UN Population Fund (UNFPA) centered in the African and Middle-Eastern sectors that offer livestock incentive to families upon the program's completion to give further educational incentives;
 - d) Providing formal sector employment opportunities for girls and women that require secondary education in partnership with all relevant stakeholders focused on local levels, such as PartnerAid that promotes small enterprise, training and consulting, and small loans towards helping women in the area of employment beyond primary education, in order to also increase the female attendance at secondary school with such hopeful incentives;
- 13) *Challenges* the international community to continue to discuss and expand upon the individual and group needs of all populations in relation to increasing gender-inclusive access to education to all regions throughout the world beyond the 2015 deadline of the MDGs.

Code: E/RES/1/2

Committee: Economic and Social Council

young adults are currently in the workforce.

Topic: Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education

1 Reaffirming the dedication of all Member States and 23 Non-Governmental 2 Organizations (NGOs) to international cooperation and the *Millennium Development* 3 Goals (MDGs) and specifically MDG2, 4 5 Observing that financial assistance and monies have been sequestered in the MDG Fund 6 in order to accomplish the successful realization of the MDGs. 7 8 Keeping in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and its promotion 9 and encouragement of equality regardless of religious or socio-economic status of an 10 individual. 11 12 Recognizing the effectiveness of the Global Partnership for Education in promoting short-13 term educational plans in different areas across the globe, 14 15 Bearing in mind Article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its call for Member States to contribute to the development of all children within their borders 16 17 through the increased access to health facilities and primary and secondary education, 18 19 Recalling the goals of the Dakar Framework for Action and specifically the aim to 20 eliminate gender disparities in education, 21 22 Recognizing the potential of NGOs in the financial and technical assistance of students 23 preparing to participate in the workforce, 24 25 Emphasizing the role that the United Nations (UN) Educational, Scientific and Cultural 26 Organization (UNESCO) plays in local governments developing innovative programs 27 such as cash transfers to increase educational funding, 28 29 Further recognizing that dilemmas in primary education can lead to further problems in 30 secondary education, 31 32 Deeply concerned that over 100 million primary-school children are not in school 33 according to the UN Children's Fund's (UNICEF) Child Friendly Schools manual, 34 35 Bearing in mind the success of programs whose focus is to map the vulnerabilities in 36 local communities concerning equitable access to education, 37 38 Taking into consideration that 18 percent of secondary and post-secondary school age

41 42 43	Noting with deep concern the report from UNESCO that notes the 16 billion USD annual shortfall in educational funding,				
44 45 46	Taking note of the elevated cost of schooling due to necessary expenditures for a quality scholastic environment as stated in Education First,				
47 48 49	<i>Taking into account</i> the limited possibilities or inability of some Member States to fully fund education in their individual Member States,				
50 51 52	Aware of Oxfam International's position as an active member of the Global Campaign for Education and its involvement in poverty reducing programs in 94 Member States,				
53 54 55	Welcoming efforts made by both the international and national communities to provide long-term funding for all education and particularly for global citizens,				
56 57	The Ed	conomic and Social Council,			
58 59	1)	Authorizes the establishment of a Fund for Recognizing Educational Endeavors (FREE) under UNESCO to aid Member States in need of education by:			
60 61 62		 a. Organizing donations and allocating financial funds from multiple Member States and NGOs for students ages 14-27; 			
63 64 65		b. Forming non-governmental subsidies which can decrease or eliminate fees for students;			
66 67 68		c. Dividing the funds for different target areas determined by Oxfam International and FREE collectively;			
69707172		d. Creating a report that will be evaluated by UNESCO in order to measure the efficiency of scholastic financial funding and incentive programs that FREE will provide;			
73 74 75	2)	<i>Encourages</i> the use of economic incentives headed by FREE to increase enrollment in educational programs through:			
76 77 78		a. Small cash transfers in order to:			
78 79 80		i. Prevent the need for students to join the workforce prematurely;			
81 82 83		ii. Support students' scholastic arrangements, specifically as students begin to seek secondary education;			

84		b.	Sub	sidies implemented by the state, such as for lov	v-cost housing and/or food,		
85			whi	ch will allow:	NIMINI. NIV		
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87			i.	All students to afford the basic necessities for s	upport during their studies;		
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89			ii.	NGOs to reach a young, new generation of part	cicipants;		
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91			iii.	NGOs to form future contracts with secondary-	school students who have		
92				benefited from FREE;			
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94		c.	The	recommendation of utilizing the Millennium D	Development Goal Fund in		
95				er to grant scholarships addressing the hindranc	-		
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97			i.	Education fees such as tuition and books;			
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99			ii.	Specific fees associated with school enrollment	outside of tuition and		
100				learning materials such as the free access to			
101				transportation;			
102				vising crimical,			
103	3)	De	esion	ates that FREE have a board of directors compo	osed of five members total		
104	٥,		with one from each of the five regional blocs within the UN system who:				
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106			a.	Serve five-year terms;			
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108 109			b.	Be elected within their own regional blocs;			
1109			C	Hold elections that are staggered with one seat	un for election each year:		
111			C.	fiold elections that are staggered with one seat	up for election each year,		
112	4)	Ins	struci	ts FREE and OXFAM to publish annual reports	which will:		
113							
114		a.	Det	ail the requirements necessary for Member Stat	e funding based on:		
115				TI : 1 11	C 1 1 : :		
116 117			i.	The economic stability and viability of a Memb consideration;	ber State or local region in		
118				consideration,			
119			ii.	Regional poverty levels in a Member State or re	egional in consideration:		
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121		b.	Del	ineate clearly to UNESCO and include:			
122							
123			i.	The corporations and Member States which have	ve donated to FREE;		
124			::	The emount of funds that each institution down	ead.		
125 126			11.	The amount of funds that each institution donat	.eu,		
120			iii	How and why the funds were dispersed to the M	Member States chosen:		
- - ,				115 and may the rands were dispersed to the r			

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129	c.	Establishing an Oxfam generated FREE Financial Assessment Report that will
130		evaluate:
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132		i. The yearly budget of the FREE based on the funding received during the
133		previous year;
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135		ii. Quantifiable progress that has been made through the FREE, as shown by
136		evidence pertaining to how monies were spent by Member States;
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138		iii. Any future variables that may increase or decrease the need for FREE
139		funding for all participating Member States;
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141	5) <i>Ren</i>	ninds all Member States to remain a positive influence in achieving secondary
142	sch	ool education for males and females alike, while still maintaining national
143	sov	ereignty and economic independence.

Code: E/RES/1/3
Committee: Economic and Social Council
Subject: Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Primary Education

Recognizing education as an essential component in impacting other development issues such as poverty and gender inequality,

Deeply disturbed that according to United Nations (UN) Children's Fund (UNICEF) 35 million girls are not enrolled in school and that one out of five girls in the developing world does not complete sixth grade,

Concerned that a gender gap in education still largely exists throughout the world,

Keeping in mind that the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) 2 and 3 are not on track to be achieved by the deadline of 2015 in all Member States,

Guided by the principle of "promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all" as stated in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* which outlines education as a human right,

Appreciating the work of the UNICEF in creating programs that promote female empowerment and that work to close the gender gap in education such as the UN Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI),

Further recalling the importance of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in highlighting the fundamental rights of all children,

Reiterating the significance of education as a basic human right as outlined in resolutions A/RES/49/184 and A/RES/55/2,

Fully aware of the Education for All (EFA) initiative that advocates improving education on all levels without discrimination,

Noting the success of South-South cooperation in alleviating economic and social issues in developing Member States,

The Economic and Social Council,

1. *Emphasizes* the continued effort toward progress in achieving universal access to primary education and gender equality by 2015;

2. *Requests* the holding of a Conference on Female Empowerment in Education in Mumbai, India, due to UNICEF's strong presence and influence on education in this Member State, during the month of April of 2014, where:

88 89		a. Provide them with the opportunity to become volunteer mentors for young girls who are in, or starting out, in primary education in developing		
90		Member States;		
91		1 C 1 1 1 1		
92		b. Supply scholarship opportunities, through donations to UNICEF from		
93 94		UNICEF's sponsors, to female mentors in order to create incentive to		
94 95		pursue higher education;		
93 96		c. Offer supplementary resources, such as information on childhood		
90 97		development, that educate mentors on how to positively and effectively		
98		influence their pupils so that:		
99		influence their pupils so that.		
100		i. Mentors can act as a role model from which the young girls can		
101		draw inspiration and become motivated to stay in school and		
102		pursue higher education;		
103				
104		ii. Participating children will understand the influence that education		
105		has in empowering females in social, economic, and political		
106		spheres;		
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108	7.	Suggests that EYGWA set a criteria that young women must meet in order to		
109		become a volunteer mentor, which will:		
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111		a. Require an application process for aspiring mentors, involving an		
112		overview of the applicants' academic profile, followed by an interview		
113		process;		
114 115		h. Engure that the young girls in primary advection are being influenced by		
116		b. Ensure that the young girls in primary education are being influenced by women who have successfully employed education in their own lives;		
117		women who have successfully employed education in their own lives,		
117	R	Supports developing Member States to work together to alleviate social and		
119	0.	economic issues that impact South-South cooperation;		
120		continue issues that impact south south cooperation,		
121	9.	Urges all Member States to continue their efforts in achieving the issues of all		
122		MDGs following the 2015 deadline, so that the international community can		
123		foster social stability and peace.		
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Code: E/RES/1/4

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Subject: Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education

- 1 Concerned by United Nations (UN) Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's
- 2 (UNESCO) report that armed conflict has claimed the lives of over two million children while
- another six million have been left wounded and/or disabled in the last decade,

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5 Fully noting that the 2011 Education For All (EFA) Global Monitoring Report states that 47 percent of out-of-school children are involved in conflict situations.

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8 Aware that 300,000 children today are involved in child militias and that over fifty countries 9 currently recruit children under age 18 into armed forces with resulting traumatic experiences 10 which impede upon the educational reintegration of these children,

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12 *Conscious* that UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) reports that ten million children have been psychologically traumatized by conflict situations,

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Cognizant of the fact that Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* establishes the right to education as one of the basic human rights agreed upon internationally and enshrined in international law.

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19 Keeping in mind that primary schooling of children is a pillar of the implementation of the UN
 20 Millennium Declaration (A/RES/55/2),

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Recalling the provisions of the General Assembly resolution on The Right to Education in
 Emergency Situations as stated in (A/RES/64/290),

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Recognizing the vital importance of education and its role as a foundation for economic andcultural stability,

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Acknowledging the transformative nature of education and its ability to lift populations out of poverty,

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Fully aware of the limited capacities of UN emergency response teams in conflict situations to
 maintain an active level of awareness regarding education,

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Stressing the shortcomings of local law enforcement in providing protection to schools due tolack of comprehensive peacekeeping training,

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Encouraged that the core component of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) work
 deals with training and building law enforcement capacity,

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40 Further recognizing that schools must be zones of peace where children are granted protection41 even in times of conflict,

57 58 59	3)	<i>Urges</i> for the establishment and maintenance of "safe" schools, which will have the same diplomatic status as embassies and be protected by local law enforcement;			
60 61 62	4)	Affirms the implementation of collaboration efforts with local law enforcement with the UNODC, which focuses on the re-education and re-structuring of local police forces for the protection of educational facilities in areas of, or recovering from, conflict;			
63 64 65	5)	<i>Directs</i> PROTECT to be involved in distributing a PROTECT toolkit to children during times of conflict, which will include:			
66 67 68		 Textbooks, in line with preset regional curriculum delineated by the UNICEF Regional Education in Emergencies; 			
69 70		b. Gender specific medical supplies;			
71 72 73		c. Writing utensils;			
74 75		d. Iodine tablets;			
76 77		e. Any other materials that may assist in increasing access to education;			
78 79 80 81	6)	Requests the assistance of UNICEF, UN Development Program (UNDP), and the UN High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR) to further PROTECT's mission of providing sufficient access to humanitarian aid and education;			
82 83 84	7)	<i>Calls upon</i> the bodies listed previously to incorporate PROTECT into current refugee and crises protocols;			
85 86 87 88	8)	Suggests that PROTECT deploy various psychological, sociological, and educational experts to ensure rehabilitation and efficient transition of children with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) back into mainstream society and educational settings, especially those who were previously involved in child-soldier activities;			

1) Strongly encourages the creation of the Program for the Removal of Threats to Education

c. Assist in the rehabilitation of youth involved in or affected by conflict by providing

a. Ensure safe zones for children to learn during conflict situations;

b. Provide learning materials for children afflicted by armed conflict;

2) Welcomes that membership in PROTECT be open to any Member States;

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The Economic and Social Council,

in Conflict Times (PROTECT), which will:

reintegration services for child combatants;

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90	9) Recommends that educators associated with PROTECT have cultural and linguistic
91	understanding of the children whom they serve, in addition to a sufficient understanding
92	of education techniques and expertise in the fields of math, science, and literature, and be
93	selected based on regional needs in accordance with the Regional Education Position
94	(UNICEF);
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96	10) Calls for the cooperation of Oxfam International, in conjunction with UNICEF, to first
97	survey the needs for the implementation of PROTECT, based upon:
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99	a. School attendance rates:

a. School attendance rates;

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- b. Numbers of children casualties in conflict situations;
- c. Evidence of the use of child soldiers;
- d. Attacks on educational facilities;
- 11) Expresses the hope that the aforementioned cooperation between Oxfam International and UNICEF will yield data that can make PROTECT more efficient as it is implemented in the situations after initial surveys;
- 12) Strongly appeals to all Member States that PROTECT be implemented as a measure to fully secure the well being of students and guarantee an increase in access to education regardless of conflict.

Code: E/RES/1/5 Committee: Economic and Social Council Subject: Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education Reaffirming the importance of Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Two which seeks to achieve universal primary education for girls and boys, Emphasizing the importance to protect the rights of children as mentioned by the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child, Noting that the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights* (UDHR) declares that everyone has the right to education, Recalling the achievements of previous Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and UN resolutions including the UN Decade for Human Rights Education (A/RES/49/184) and the General Assembly resolution on the right to education (A/RES/55/2), Bearing in mind the past efforts of Member States, UN bodies, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to increase sustainable access to education, Deeply alarmed by the fact that the MDG 2 has yet to be achieved in some Member States, *Highlighting* the extraordinary success of the conditional cash transfer programs Progreso/Oportunidades in Mexico and the Female School Stipend Program in Pakistan, Expecting that educational growth can be achieved by focusing on the role of family, Believing strongly than an increase in education begins by mapping vulnerabilities and utilizing existing local capabilities, Having adopted the significance of the role of the family in encouraging educational

achievement in light of the International Year of the Family and its twentieth anniversary in 2014,

Having examined the success of the UN Development Program's (UNDP) Food at School program and interested in the possibility of integrating this idea in a more family perspective,

Fully aware that supplemental income support systems are necessary for impoverished families to account for the opportunity cost of sending their children to school,

The Economic and Social Council,

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41 42 1) Endorses the creation of the Rethinking Family Education Policy Program (RFEPP), in which parents and children will actively participate in instilling education as a family value, as it is a vital part of making educational access a sustainable reality;

- 2) Further recommend that the RFEPP should be financed and managed by Member States. and in the extreme case that a Member State wants to implement RFEPP but currently does not possess adequate funds, it is suggested that they request the assistance of regional organizations, Member States, local communities, and NGOs; 3) Draws attention that ECOSOC should finance and organize biannual meetings between ministers of education to ensure the success of the program, with: a) The collaboration of UNESCO's efforts, Member States are encouraged to contribute financially to the organization of this meeting; b) Organizing alongside one another, Member States will decide the meeting location, meeting destination should rotate biannually; c) The meeting being organized and facilitated by the host Member States; 4) Calls for the implementation of a Food at School initiative in the RFEPP that: a) Will act as an additional resource along side the successful World Food Program; b) Will provide daily meals in schools to every child that attends school in the supported areas of the RFEPP; c) Will ensure that food given to students is predominantly provided by local partners; d) Food produced by local partners will be paid by the national ministry of education; e) Gives parents the opportunity to acquire agricultural technical skills in order to become more self-sufficient in encouraging the creation of a bridge between parents willing to learn agricultural techniques and local partners;
 - 5) Encourages the adoption of an RFEPP night school initiative for parents or guardians of students, to further encourage retention among students and assert education as a family value, which will:
 - a) Seek to educate parents or guardians of students on the benefits and importance of education, through locally developed and implemented night schools;
 - b) Be made available periodically, with the time, place, and frequency of meetings decided upon by local communities;
 - c) Be divided into two categories, with the:

 i) First priority pertaining to educating parents, guardians, and community members on basic writing, reading, and arithmetic skills;

89 ii) Second category being a supplemental program to teach relevant vocational skills. 90 as these will reflect the specific needs and economies of local communities; 91 92 d) Also be attended by the students themselves, so they can engage in active learning 93 with their families: 94 95 i) Local teachers will be reimbursed for conducting these night schools, with funds 96 for this being allocated by the Member States; 97 98 6) Calls upon all local communities, regional NGOs, international NGOs, and Member 99 States to adopt a cash transfer program, to offset disincentives for children attending 100 primary and or secondary school, in order to readily finance the RFEPP, with the 101 understanding that: 102 103 a) This seeks to empower families by providing them with funding to sustain family 104 living costs; 105 106 b) Transfers will be allocated conditionally to families on the basis that children are 107 regularly attending and succeeding in school: 108 109 c) Local officials within the RFEPP will ensure that students are actively attending 110 classes and receiving nourishment as defined by the RFEPP and the World Health 111 Organization (WHO); 112 113 d) Additional funds will be allocated to families that are actively participating in 114 voluntary family educational initiatives within RFEPP, including, but not limited to, 115 programs addressed in clause 1; 116 117 7) Requests that within the RFEPP an initiative be designed, entitled Go Local, to address 118 community specific challenges regarding access to education and the retention of 119 students within the education system, noting that communities are in the best position to 120 represent family specific views: 121 122 a) Local communities will be granted the ability to pinpoint problems and needs that 123 hinder access to education and reduce retention within their region and these shall be 124 reported; 125 126 b) Those reports shall be sent to national RFEPP officials, chosen by individual Member 127 States within the Ministry of Education, for evaluation, and they shall be reviewed 128 biannually at ECOSOC meetings previously mentioned; 129 130 c) Local leaders will be asked to petition, by filling a formal report to RFEPP officials, 131 for funds and resources to alleviate these problems when critical needs arise; 132 133 d) Local aid will be allocated to the communities in most demand of assistance, with this 134 being determined by the Ministry of Education, individual Member States, and

135	RFEPP officials;	
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137	e) Local coordinators are target	to be able to have a better understanding and an easier
138	access to the issue that face t	he families in need;
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140	8) Expresses its hope to see Member	er States adopting the RFEPP in their individual countries
141	in order to develop a sustainable	access to education;
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143	9) Further reminds the importance	of continuing to discuss and cooperate in the
144	achievement of MDG 2.	
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Code: E/RES/1/6

Committee: Economic and Social Council

Subject: Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education

Recalling the Purposes and Principles of Article 1.3 of the Charter of the United Nations and its call for international cooperation in solving problems of an economic and social character,

Understanding the importance of increasing access to education through regional partnerships with international organizations and with supplemental assistance from a Financial Transaction Tax,

Acknowledging the principles of the internationally recognized Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All and the emphasis on the importance of quality education and its enhancement by high standards of teaching as a goal of United Nations (UN) Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Quality Teachers for Education For All (EFA) program,

Noting with concern the lack of teaching resources and exchange of ideas amongst teachers from the various Member States,

Aware of the 2015 deadline to meet the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as enshrined in the Millennium Declaration and particularly MDG 2 and increasing access to education,

Promoting the need for quality education as a means to achieving MDG 2 through increasing access to sustainable school materials and in the activities of the World Food Programme's (WFP) School Feeding Initiative,

Remembering the principles outlined in Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* and which defines the universal right to education that is free and compulsory at all levels,

Encouraging the work of the UN Development Programme's (UNDP) Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) for Local Service Delivery in promoting access to high quality education especially for local populations,

Emphasizing the importance of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and its reaffirmation of the need to reduce disparities between rural and urban populations as well as increase access to and completion of free and compulsory education of good quality,

Bearing in mind the need to bridge the inequalities between rural and urban areas in accessing education and training opportunities of local populations for further local empowerment which is emphasized by the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Training for Rural Economic Empowerment Initiative (TREE),

Confident in UNESCO's Convention on Technical and Vocational Education and Training
 (TVET) and especially its emphasis of the importance of TVET in promoting skills development
 which contributes to overall economic development and access to education,

Taking note of the importance of achieving the EFA Goals by 2015 with special regard to improving access and quality of education,

Acknowledging EFA Goal 6 which addresses improving measurable learning outcomes of education such as higher literacy rates as a result of increasing overall access to education,

Recognizing the efforts of UNESCO's Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE) in improving the literacy of vulnerable populations and especially girls which is an important aspect of increasing access to education,

Further acknowledging the efforts of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and all relevant parties in working towards the development of a post-2015 UN agenda to ensure continued sustainable progress towards development and the achievement of the Goals with specific reference to achieving universal primary education,

Recalling further the conclusions of the 2011 ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review (E/2012/66) in its focus upon reaffirming Member States commitments to further future access to education,

Respecting the sovereignty of all Member States as defined by Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations,

The Economic and Social Council,

1) *Encourages* all Member States to ensure that educational physical infrastructure and facilities are of good quality to promote access to education for all peoples, especially local populations, through such actions as, but not limited to:

a) Increased financial assistance through the promotion of public-private partnerships which work with local and regional development banks and Member States for the purpose of increasing the quality of local educational infrastructure;

b) The expansion of regional programmes and partnerships to include local populations in developing regions in the participation of building infrastructure which supports access to education;

2) Calls for the cooperation of all Member States, as well as local educational professionals and stakeholders, in working with UNESCO through the expanded implementation of its Quality Teachers for EFA program, to promote the higher quality standards of teachers and teaching curricula by:

a) Establishing mechanisms which monitor internationally accepted standards of education with regard to cultural differences, which include prior education and training experience, and ensuring that quality is maintained and updated throughout the teaching process;

89 b) Ensuring that local educational personnel have the ability to obtain a license through 90 teacher training institutions to identify themselves as highly skilled professionals and 91 able to work and stay within the local communities; 92 93 3) Authorizes the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) to provide teachers resources and further 94 education in teaching skills through a Teacher Exchange System (TES) to: 95 96 a) Recruit high-achieving teachers both from Member States with a well-established and 97 flourishing education system as well as teachers from Member States with less 98 developed educational systems; 99 100 b) Organize this program with the intention of highlighting the importance of teaching 101 as a profession and of sharing ideas between communities; 102 103 c) Have the eventual goal of creating a system of sustainability and self-reliance within 104 the education system of developing Member States that would not be reliant upon 105 outside experts but that would fully utilize the growing number of teaching 106 professionals in Member States; 107 108 d) Further facilitate the exchange of teachers from developing Member States to those 109 with more established educational systems in order for the sharing of valuable 110 experiences, background knowledge, and best practices; 111 112 e) Advise the ideal duration of the exchange depending on the specific needs of the 113 region and teachers in question; 114 115 f) Encourage all Member States participating in the exchange to fund the necessary costs of transition for TES and to financially support participating schools; 116 117 118 4) Strongly endorses increased attention towards and access to sustainable education 119 mechanisms for improved attendance, such as: 120 121 a) Increasing the recycling of previously-used school materials and sharing among 122 Member States, with cooperation between UNESCO and local communities, to 123 provide for the needs of future generations; 124 125 b) Improving integration of local populations in implementing the WFP School-Feeding 126 Initiative in all regions, as a means to increasing access to incentives for staying in 127 school which will increase retention at all levels of education; 128 129 5) Recommends Member States to develop community and regional-based education 130 systems which can be achieved through the utilization of the UNDP's PPPs for Local 131 Service Delivery, which will: 132 133 a) Increase the participation of local populations and stakeholders in the construction of 134 quality and efficient of educational facilities,

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- b) Further ensure the participation of local professionals through their employment in such facilities in order to ensure education contributes to overall economic and cultural development and empowerment across all regions;
- 6) *Requests* that Member States join together to create an international conference every five years to be attended by teachers for the purpose of sharing successful teaching practices to:
 - a) Create a nomination and competition process in order to identify a delegation of individuals as "Teachers of Excellence" (TOE) of equal numbers from each Member State;
 - b) Allow conference participants to:
 - i) Have the opportunity to share the best practices in order to disseminate successful strategies among their peers from other Member States;
 - ii) Be nominated by school administrators and to go through a selection process that would be organized by each Member States' local governing bodies' education systems;
 - iii) Break into regional groups to elect representatives to lead the progression of the conference and the logistical management of the participants;
 - iv) Share the characteristics of classroom innovators and initiators of substantial improvements in educational environments and the overall successes of their school and students:
 - v) Join together in a location that would alternate between participating TOE Member States and that would ultimately be decided upon by a vote amongst the participating educators at the proceeding conference;
 - vi) Confer on textbook improvements and the substance of learning curriculum;
 - vii) Be accompanied by an administrative official from each Member States' educational system in order that they can be assisted in sharing the best practices to individuals in their education system;
 - viii) Receive feedback for teachers on what they can do to improve their performance in the classroom and providing accountability that the mission of the conference is being fulfilled;
 - c) Be funded by a partnership of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), UNESCO, and World Bank;

181 d) Create an online database with universal access that would compile and record the 182 different teaching strategies and resources decided upon by the TOE attending the 183 conference in order that teachers around the world would be able to benefit from the 184 ideas created by the conference that will: 185 186 i) Contain audio and visual records of all of the proceedings of the conference; 187 188 ii) Further include any substantive written documents that are produced by the TOE 189 participants; 190 191 iii) Be managed by the individuals selected by the aforementioned elections in order 192 from representatives to be chosen from each region; 193 194 iv) Be accessible to both educators from Member States and those that are in training 195 to become teachers; 196 197 v) Emphasize qualities of successful teachers such as creativity and dedication; 198 199 vi) Describe strategies for achieving success in the classroom as well as ideas 200 generated regarding textbooks and curricula; 201 202 7) *Invites* Member States to increase cooperation with the ILO and regional organizations through the enhanced implementation of its TREE Initiative in order to improve the 203 204 access by rural areas of quality training institutions to further incentivize all qualified and educated populations to seek local employment and improve their local capacities and 205 206 well-being in the overall development of their communities; 207 208 8) Calls upon all local communities, regional organizations, international organizations, and 209 Member States to collaborate with regional development banks and UNESCO to promote 210 the implementation of national and regional TVET programmes in all developing areas, 211 which: 212 213 a) Equips citizens with a solid set of skills that permit the obtainment of employment and enables individuals to thrive in their fields, including both technical soft skills 214 215 such as socialization and cooperation and awareness of citizenship and civic duty, and 216 hard skills that allow citizens to pursue future careers; 217 218 b) Has been tailored to suit the needs of the local economies of the specific Member 219 States while keeping in mind that these needs vary between Member States especially 220 in the needs of participation in various economic sectors; 221 222 9) Further encourages the creation of a database that would establish a relationship between 223 Member States attempting to implement vocational and apprentice programs and 224 companies looking to hire individuals from different regions of the world that would: 225

a) Be compiled and managed by UNESCO and updated on the UN website;

recipients start their studies;

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c) Further encourage Member States to send undergraduate students and teachers abroad for further professional knowledge and teaching training needed in home Member States; d) Improve the quality of teaching and development of Member States; e) Exchange students among all Member States; f) Authorize UNICEF to decide the number of students for each Member State in order to achieve the biggest efficiency of the scholarship; 12) Requests the implementation of all long-term projects by Member States, relevant non-governmental organizations, UN bodies and personnel, and local populations, to align with the approach of the post-2015 UN agenda and MDG Framework in realizing continued progress in working towards the realization of sustainable achievement of the current MDGs by: a) Ensuring that appropriate attention is devoted to the specific needs of regions, Member States, and groups, while also maintaining a global outlook; b) Recognizing that local communities need to be empowered to fully address their educational needs;

- c) Maintaining accountability in the usage of finances through monitoring and the stipulation of clear standards by which progress is measured;
- d) Grounding the achievement of these goals within the human rights framework and principles of development that are paramount to the UN;
- e) Affirming that particular attention be accorded to Member States who have yet to achieve MDG 2, while emphasizing that Member States who have achieved MDG 2 should ensure that these basic standards of education are maintained;
- 13) Suggests Member States pursue further discussions of the issues pertaining to the expansion of quality education with the ultimate aim of achieving equity and accessibility for all peoples

Code: E/RES/1/7 Committee: Economic and Social Council Subject: Millennium Development Goal 2 and Increasing Access to Education Acknowledging the importance of education as key to Member State development, Remembering the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Two of achieving universal access to primary education by 2015 and the program "Child Friendly Schools" established in 2009 by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). Recognizing the high literacy rate of 84 percent among adults according to the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Institute of Statistic in most developed countries, Guided by Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Taking note of A/RES/56/326 which proclaims the UN Literacy Decade and outlines the global commitment to provide quality basic education for all children and adults. Deeply appreciative of the international community on the progress of achieving 89 percent enrollment in pre-primary education by the year 2008 which is a growth from 83 percent in 2000, Noting with deep concern the 48 million school-age children living without access to a proper education, Fully aware of the goals implemented by Education for All (EFA) financed by agencies such as UNESCO and UNICEF, Concerned by the unequal opportunities of pre-primary-aged children but is aware the solution lies in increasing funding, Keeping in mind the need to address road map for pre-primary education goals once the MDG2 expires in 2015, Drawing attention to the role of pre-primary education in both preparing children for future education and allowing women to re-enter the workforce gradually by allowing them to overcome the poverty barrier, The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

1) Confirms that MDG2, as a first step towards universal, secondary, and tertiary

not been able to achieve the MDGs, and:

education, be re-established after 2015, especially for Member States that have

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43 a. Member States should focus attention to improving the quality of secondary 44 and tertiary education by investing more of their Gross Domestic Product into 45 the educational sector; 46 47 b. Allowing for the promotion of common experiences through the mutual 48 sharing of resources to assist in financial, economic, and technical ways; 49 50 2) Emphasizes the lack of financial funding as one of the major reasons why Less 51 Economically Developed (LED) countries have not been able to achieve the 52 MDGs; 53 54 3) Recommends the expansion of pre-primary education opportunities by Member 55 States, particularly in regions which would benefit from more available 56 opportunities; 57 58 4) Endorses that educational training should be allocated for teachers in order to 59 secure the quality of education, especially in primary education; 60 61 5) Requests that all Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Member States 62 complement the existing UNICEF program "Child Friendly Schools" with a new 63 educational program entitled "Family Friendly Schools" financed by different 64 development institutions such as the World Bank Group, United Nation 65 Development Programme (UNDP), and UNICEF: 66 67 a. Providing opportunities for parents to earn additional wages by working in 68 various positions relating to the school; 69 70 b. Dispensing lessons for willing parents to: 71 72 learn writing and reading skills; 73 ii) explain the importance of education for their children; 74 iii) illustrate why girls especially have to attend school as a part of 75 overcoming gender inequality; 76 77 6) Establishes new ambitious and realistic goals for the post-2015 MDG2 in areas of 78 education as outlined below: 79 80 a. Member States that have already achieved their MDG2 are challenged to 81 establish quality education in their secondary and tertiary institutions; 82 83 b. Member States that have not achieved MDG2 are further assisted through 84 international education institutions and non-governmental organizations 85 (NGOs), and to help Member States achieve the goal; 86 87 7) Designates the increase of funding from UN bodies and development banks to

LED countries in order to achieve 99.9 percent universal literacy by the year 2030

89 working with NGOs as well as institutions such as the International Education 90 Fund (IEF) and other means of development funding to achieve universal pre-91 primary literacy; 92 93 8) Expresses its hope for further usage of the MDGs beyond 2015 and that all UN 94 Member States rise to new challenges for the continued educational growth of the 95 global community, as well as to support developing Member States by 96 contributing to achieving goals; 97 98 9) Calls upon all Member States that have met the MDGs to support financially 99 assisting countries who have not met the MDGs in providing training for teachers, 100 investing in infrastructure in rural areas where schools are not as easily accessible; 101 10) Encourages all Member States that have met the MDGs to reevaluate their 102 national education curriculum with focus on marginalized, violence ridden and 103 104 rural areas and to increase the quality of teachers training in an effort to expand 105 the quality of education in secondary and tertiary level such as: 106 107 a. Focusing on increasing the quality of their secondary and tertiary education 108 year 2030: 109 110 i) This being measured by each Member State; ii) Attention to secondary and tertiary institutions in marginalized 111 populations due to disability, race, or gender by 25 percent by the year 112 113 2030; 114 115 b. Improving the number of specialized teachers by 15 percent by the year 2030; 116 117 c. Increasing the enrollment rate of women and girls in secondary and tertiary 118 institutions by 30 percent by 2030 for countries that have less than 50 percent 119 female enrollment, while continuing efforts to provide quality secondary and 120 tertiary education for all students regardless of gender; 121 122 d. Accordingly increase the access to educational following by a non-123 discriminatory policy; 124 125 11) Reiterates the fact that the progress of educational systems is essential to world 126 development, international consensus on common education strategies, and 127 substantial progress on the MDGs to lead to worldwide educational equality.