

**Statement by Mr. Peter Suckow  
CEC André-Chavanne**

Dear participants of the 2011 Annual Ministerial Review of the ECOSOC,

As we observe the massive international effort "education for all", our main concern is that the quality of education has not yet followed suit with marked improvements in the quantity of education.

As you may well know, education in Switzerland is regularly ranked amongst the best in the world; however, even the best public schools in the world are still using antique educational methodologies.

Very basic learning principles and methods such as spaced repetition and argument mapping are still being shunned by public schools, even though their effectiveness has long been proven and very well developed softwares utilizing these principles such as "Supermemo 2008" have been developed, softwares which tremendously increase the quality of and speed at which critical skills and depth and breadth of knowledge can be acquired and developed.

Secondary schools still provide a very rigid system for their students to navigate in; stifling the growth, intellect and creativity of the individual mind.

Taking into account individual differences in learning speeds and methods by loosening the secondary educational system to allow calibration to the students is a must.

MED countries now have the luxury to carry out these changes in methodology and framework; and countries remaining in the status quo will be left behind.

Countries applying these changes will witness the blossoming of a new generation with upgraded critical thinking skills and vastly superior knowledge acquisition and retention skills; all of which lead to improved decision-making abilities.

A population that is wiser, smarter; truly educated. Democracy as it should be.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.