

EDUCATION FOR ALL: CLASS OF 2015

MEDIA ADVISORY

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LAUNCH OF “CLASS OF 2015: EDUCATION FOR ALL”

New effort brings together world leaders, NGOs, FIFA, corporations, faith leaders, education advocates and people around the world in fight for free, public basic education for all children

On September 25th, the “Class of 2015: Education for All” will be launched, bringing together supportive governments, faith groups, NGOs, sports, private sector organizations and education advocates to build the political will to achieve education goals and ensure that every person has the opportunity of an education.

In 2000, world leaders pledged to ensure that by 2015, there would be Education for All. Eight years later, the MDG of gender parity in education has already been missed and the world is far off track for making the other education goals a reality. The goals are achievable—but much more needs to be done. And the clock is ticking.

Since 2000, we have seen results with 40 million more children in school. Yet 75 million children of primary school age have never been to school, with many of them instead working in factories, on farms or caring for their sick parents. For those fortunate enough to make it to school, millions struggle to learn, as they share teachers with up to 100 other students, have few or no textbooks, and receive only a few hours teaching a day. As generations before them also failed to have the chance at school, today 774 million adults are unable to read and write.

The “Class for 2015” will “register” a remarkable line up of individuals, organizations, institutions and companies into an historic group who together will announce commitments towards the achievement of education for all. Through providing global leadership in the fight to fully fund and achieve the education goals, we can be the first generation in history to develop the potential of not just some of the world’s children, but all of the world’s children.

WHAT: “Education for All: Class of 2015” launch

WHO: The Right Honourable **Gordon Brown**, Prime Minister, UK

The Honourable **Kevin Rudd**, MP, Prime Minister, Australia

President of the European Commission **José Manuel Barroso**

Sheikh Nasser al-Mohammed al-Ahmed al-Sabah, Prime Minister, Kuwait

World Bank President **Robert Zoellick**

Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah of Jordan

Bernard Kouchner, Foreign Minister of France

Sam K. Ongeri, Minister of Education, Kenya

Kailash Satyarthi, President of Global Campaign for Education

John Chambers, CEO, CISCO

Craig Barrett, Chairman, Intel

Sepp Blatter, President, FIFA

UNESCO Director-General **Koichiro Matsuura**

His Excellency **John Sentamu**, Archbishop of York

Rabbi Steven Gutow, Executive Director, Jewish Council for Public Affairs

Representatives and leaders from civil society including **Action Aid**, **Comic Relief**, **Education International**, **FAWE**, **Oxfam**, **Save the Children** and **World Vision**

WHEN: 2:00- 3:00pm ET, September 25, 2008

WHERE: Dag Hammarskjold Library, UN Headquarters, New York City

A ground-level corridor connects library and Secretariat building at the Secretariat lobby, near the main cafeteria. Library also on the 1B level by an underground hallway.

Media must be accredited to attend this event. Please RSVP to Meighan Stone on meighan@campaignforeducation.org by September 24, 2008.

The Global Campaign for Education, founded in 1999, brings together major nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and teachers' unions in more than 120 countries. GCE promotes access to education as a basic human right and raises public awareness to create the political will for governments and other leaders in the international community to fulfill their promises to provide at least a free, public basic education for all children. www.campaignforeducation.org