Global Observance of the International Day of Education 2023

Trusteeship Council Chamber, UN Headquarters | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm EST, January 24, 2023

10.00 am - 10.10 am

High-Level Opening

Moderator: Kenisha Arora, SDG4 High-Level Steering Committee Youth Representative

- António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations (VM)
- Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO (VM)

10.10 am - 10.30 am

Transforming Education Summit: Stocktaking and way forward

Welcome and MC: H.E. Jakub Kulhánek, Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the UN, Chair of the Group of Friends for Education and Lifelong Learning

- Leonardo Garnier, UNSG Special Adviser for the Transforming Education Summit
- Stefania Giannini, Assistant-Director General for Education of UNESCO
- H.E. Alhaji Fanday Turay, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sierra Leone to the United Nations, Global Champion for Education Transformation Representative

10.30 am - 11:15 am

Spotlight Session: "Let Girls and Women in Afghanistan Learn"

Afghanistan remains the only country in the world where girls and women do not have access to education beyond primary level. This means that 2.5 million (80%) of schoolaged Afghan girls and young women are out of school, 1.2 million of whom were denied access to secondary schools and universities following the decision of the de facto authorities. The recent unacceptable decision to suspend women's access to universities, until further notice, has affected over 100,000 female students attending higher education institutions, jeopardizing the achievements made in the last twenty years. Prior to the recent suspension, one out of three young women were enrolled in universities. This panel will explore how the international community can support Afghan girls' and women's right to education through innovative and impactful solutions.

Moderator: Stefania Giannini, Assistant-Director General for Education of UNESCO

- H.E. Yamanaka Osamu, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations
- Shabana Rasikh, Founder of School of Leadership Afghanistan
- Pashtana Dorani, Executive Director of LEARN AFGHANISTAN
- Aydin Sahba, Afghan student and activist

11.15 am - 12.45 pm

Interactive Panel Discussion

Pathways to transform education: how to advance the needed shift in education?

Segment 1 (45 minutes)

At the Transforming Education Summit, five Global Initiatives were launched to support countries to improve their education systems, making them more inclusive and resilient to future challenges. These initiatives include ensuring learners are prepared for a greener future, providing digital solutions for every learner, advancing gender equality, ensuring continuity of inclusive education for learners affected by crises, and empowering young people to become effective leaders. This panel will discuss how governments and other education stakeholders will turn into actions the commitments made at the Summit taking into account these initiatives.

Moderator: Professor Maria Ivanova, Director of the School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University

- Helen Grant, UK Special Envoy on Girls' Education
- H.E. Arrmanatha Christiawan Nasir, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations
- Sanjay Wijesekera Director, Programme Division, UNICEF
- Ashley Jun, Mission 4.7 Eco-Ambassador
- Yasmine Sherif, Director, Education Cannot Wait

Q&A session

Segment 2: (45 minutes)

Quality education is the most important investment countries can make for their future and their people. This panel will call on governments, the international community and key stakeholders to stand by their commitments to prioritize investment in education, including through empowering teachers. It will also highlight the role UN Development System, in particular UN Resident Coordinators can play at the local and regional levels to advance the focus on transforming education actions. Participants will also stress the importance of strengthening national capacities in education data and statistics for evidence-based policy-making, planning and monitoring of SDG 4.

Moderator: Randi Weingarten, President, American Federation of Teachers

- Charles North, Deputy CEO, Global Partnership for Education
- H.E. Enkhbold Vorshilov, Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations
- Ana Graça, UN Resident Coordinator in Panama (remotely)
- Manos Antoninis, Director, Global Education Monitoring Report Team

Q&A session

12.45 pm – 1.00 pm

Closing

Moderator: Kenisha Arora, SDG4 High-Level Steering Committee Youth Representative (Handing an Open Letter to PGA)

- H.E. Csaba Kőrösi, President of 77th United Nations General Assembly
- H.E. Tijjani Muhammad Bande, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Nigeria to the United Nations.