

**SPECIAL ADVISER OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE 2022
TRANSFORMING EDUCATION SUMMIT**

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**REMARKS THIRD INFORMAL BRIEFING TO MEMBER STATES IN
NEW YORK**

12 April 2022

**Madame Deputy Secretary-General
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,**

It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to engage with you today.

As the Deputy Secretary-General just said, a number of key documents were shared with you prior to this meeting.

These documents seek to help us move forward to the next phase of the Summit preparations.

Allow me to summarize what is now being proposed.

In relation to the Concept Note for the Summit workstreams, we have shared an updated version.

While the proposed scope and approach remains the same, some changes have been introduced to address points raised during consultations –

including on issues such as national ownership, mainstreaming gender equality, ensuring attention for education in situations of crisis; education for sustainable development and ensuring effective follow-up.

We hope this provides us with a set of agreed parameters to guide the remainder of the Summit process.

In relation to the national consultations, a set of guidelines will be shared with a letter from the Secretary-General to Heads of State and Government that will be dispatched in the coming days.

The letter urges leaders to engage with the Summit process, particularly as it relates to undertaking an inclusive national consultation process.

We hope that national consultations will build on existing efforts and engage what is a diverse and changing ecosystem of learning in each country.

The guidelines also urge leaders to use the consultation process to help shape a National Statement of Commitment to Transform Education between now and 2030.

As we look ahead to the Pre-Summit, we encourage countries that are ready to advance consultations over the next two months to liaise with the Summit secretariat.

In relation to Thematic Action tracks, we have confirmed and refined the five thematic areas.

These will seek to address the transformation we wish to see on critical aspects of the education system: schools and the learning environment; teachers and the teaching profession; pedagogy and curriculum for the future; digital learning and transformation; and education financing.

A draft Terms of Reference for the Action Tracks has been shared to help clarify what is expected of each track.

This includes holding bi-monthly open consultations with a view to identifying innovation approaches, elements of transformation and proposals for action.

To ensure coherence across the work of the five tracks, I will convene monthly meetings of the co-leads to discuss progress being made and opportunities for synergies.

Member States have also been requested to express interest in serving as Co-Leads in the Summit Action Tracks.

We are grateful for the expressions of interest received.

In light of the high level of interest, we have decided to dedicate two slots for member states to co-lead each track together with a leading stakeholder.

As we are working to ensure regional diversity across all tracks, we encourage any delegation wishing to co-lead the thematic action tracks on digital learning and on education financing to liaise with the Summit secretariat as soon as possible.

We count on the flexibility and understanding of all involved as we seek to conclude this process by the end of the week.

In relation to the public engagement track, we are making progress on the Summit communications and on establishing arrangements to facilitate active engagement of stakeholders throughout the process.

We are also working on concrete initiatives to ensure the views of youth, teachers and others on the future of education are harnessed as we move towards September.

Excellencies,

As you will have seen from the initial Member State engagement plan, we propose to hold one briefing open to all delegations each month between now and September.

These will ensure that all delegations have consistent access to the very latest information on Summit preparations.

They will also provide opportunities to seek your views on the shape of the Summit Summary Outcome Document.

These will be additional to my own engagements with various political and cross-regional groups that I intend to conduct on an ongoing basis.

I am also working closely with Assistant Director-General Giannini to ensure coherence in our engagements in Paris and New York.

Excellencies,

To conclude, we have a large body of work ahead of us.

But together with Stefania and the team across the UN system, we are convinced that by working together in an open, inclusive and flexible manner, we can generate the knowledge and commitment needed to hold a productive Pre-Summit in Paris on the road to a successful Summit in September.

I very much look forward to your contributions and to working closely with you all over the coming months.

Thank you.
